REGISTERED No. 4.—1878.

The Bombay Gazette.

[With Supplement.

No. 9,346—New Series. BOMBAY :—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1878.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

The Rates of Subscription to the *Bombay Gazette* are as follow :—

To Subscribers in Bombay —*Delivered free.*

In Advance.		*In Arrear.*	
Per Annum	Rs. 48	Per Annum	Rs. 60
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To Subscribers Up-country.

In Advance.		*In Arrear.*	
Per Annum	Rs. 52	Per Annum	Rs. 65
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Ten Lines and under—

First insertion	Rs. 5 0
Second do.	2 8
Third do.	2 8
Fourth and succeeding insertions	0 2½ As.

A line, but no Advertisement counted as less than eight lines.

LONG ADVERTISEMENTS.

First insertion	8 As. per Line.
Second do.	4½ „ „
Third and succeeding	2½ „ „

In the Native Languages, double the above.

For Advertisements which are to be inserted for a considerable time special contracts may be made.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements of two or three lines relating to such matters [illegible] Sales, Business Cards, Situations, Wanted or Servants [illegible], Houses or Lodgings to Let, Changes of Residence, [illegible] Lost or Found. The scale for Advertisements belonging [illegible] any of these classes as follows :—

Not exceeding three lines .... Rs. 1-0

Each succeeding line.......... „ 0-8 As.

[illegible] ments exceeding five lines will be charged for at our [illegible] ary rates.

[illegible] ment will be inserted for less than *One Rupee*, [illegible] ust in all cases be made in *Cash.*

All Advertisements are charged according to the space occupied in Nonpareil, or smallest type, 12 lines of which go to the inch.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES : EACH—TWO RUPEES.

All Cheques, Money Orders, and other Remittances should be made payable to the "Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette.*"

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

THE following steamers are intended to be DESPATCHED FORTNIGHTLY from KURRACHEE to LONDON, calling at Aden, Hodeidah, Jeddah, Suez, Port Said, and Algiers, and at Lisbon once a month :—

Vessels.	Tons.	H.P.	Captains.	Date.
KILWA	1536	200	J. Avern	7th Nov. „
PATNA	1780	200	J. E. Withers	21st „ „

Cargo and Passengers are booked here for the abovenamed places, also for East African ports for shipment hence by the Kurrachee steamers which leave Bombay on dates to correspond with the dates of sailing from Kurrachee.

For freight and passage apply to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Agents.

WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE MALABAR COAST, CEYLON, MADRAS, AND CALCUTTA.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under contract with Government, will despatch the S. S. AFRICA, 2,632 Tons, 250 H. P. Commander J. Henderson, on SATURDAY, the 2nd November 1878, at 4 p.m., calling at Rutnaghery, Vingorla, Goa, Carwar, Mangalore, Cannanore, Tellicherry, Calicut, Beypore, Cochin, Alleppey, Tuticorin, Colombo, Galle, Negapatam, Madras, Coconada, Vizagapatam, Bimlipatam, Callingapatam, Gopalpore, False Point and at any other place where inducement offers.

Cargo for Singapore and China can be booked fortnightly by the steamers on this line hence or from intermediate ports for transhipment at Galle to the Steamers of the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes de la France which run regularly.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Agents.

WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE PERSIAN GULF, VIA KURRACHEE

Interchanging Cargo and Passengers at Bussorah, to and from Bagdad, with the Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company or other Steamers.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under Contract with Government, will despatch the SOCOTRA, 1947 Tons, 220 H. P., Commander W. A. Abbatt, on THURSDAY, the 31st, October 1878, at 4 p.m., to the PERSIAN GULF, touching at KURRACHEE, GWADER, MUSCAT, JASK, BUNDERABBAS, LINGA, BUSHIRE, FAO, BUSREH, and occasionally at BAHREIN and MAHOMERAH.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Agents.

BI-WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited), under Contract with Government, will despatch Steamers to Kurrachee every THURSDAY at 4 p.m., and every MONDAY at 10 a.m.

The S. S. SOCOTRA, 1,947 Tons, 220 H.P., Commander W. A. Starratt, will be despatched on THURSDAY, the 31st October 1878, at 4 p.m.

The S. S. BUSHEER, 792 Tons, 150 H. P., Commander T. P. Nailer, on MONDAY, the 4th November 1878, at 10 a. m., calling at Verawul, Mangrole, Pore Bunder and Cutch Mandvie, both ways.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH ITALY VIA SUEZ CANAL.

ITALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY of Messrs. R. RUBATTINO & Co., GENOA.

THE REGULAR STEAMERS LEAVE GENOA on the 24th, and BOMBAY on the 1st *of each month.*

PASSENGERS' RATES FROM BOMBAY,

(Inclusive of all Transit Fees through the Suez Canal.)

	1st Class.	2nd Class.		3rd Class.	
Aden	Rs. 220	Rs. 150	Including Wines.	Rs. 40	Without food.
Suez	300	220		60	
Port Said	380	240		90	
Jaffa	400	300		120	
Beyrout	425	320		125	
Cyprus	450	350		130	
Messina	500	340		140	
Naples	500	340		140	
Leghorn	500	340		140	
Genoa	500	340		140	
Marseilles	520	350		145	

Children under 3 years, free of charge; Children not above 10 years, half fare.

NEXT STEAMERS FROM BOMBAY :—

ARABIA to sail on FRIDAY, 1st November 1878.
AUSTRALIA to sail on SUNDAY 1st December 1878.
SUMATRA to sail on WEDNESDAY 1st January 1879.

Passengers and Cargo are now booked for JAFFA, BEYROUT AND CYPRUS.

A Steamer of the Company leaves Portsaid regularly every Thursday which carries the Passengers from Bombay to the above Ports.

All Steamers of this Company have large First and Second Class accommodation; and always carry a Doctor and a Stewardess on board.

The steamers of this Company, as a rule, start precisely at 10 A. M. Any unavoidable detention will, however, be advertised at least one day previously.

For hand-books of information, rates of freight, &c., apply to

C. GRONDONA,
Agent Rubattino Steam Navigation Company,
No. 2, Hummum Street.

Bombay, July, 1878.

ANCHOR LINE.

BOMBAY TO LIVERPOOL.

S. S. INDIA,
2,289 Tons, 500 H. P.

THIS Steamer will sail about the 13th November.

For passage, &c., apply to

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co., Agents.

N. B.—The Anglia (s.s.) will follow at a fortnight's interval.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

REGULAR LINE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN BOMBAY AND TRIESTE, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's S. S. VORWAERTS, Capt. G. Marussig, will be despatched from BOMBAY to TRIESTE on the 15th November 1878.

Rates of Passage-money (exclusive of Wines and Spirits, which can be had on board at moderate prices) as under :—

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
Trieste	Rs. 400	Rs. 300	Rs. 180 0
Cyprus (via Port Said)	„ 375	„ 295	„ 143 0
Port Said	„ 320	„ 255	„ 131 0
To Suez	„ 300	„ 240	„ 122 0
To Aden	„ 170	„ 130	„ 66 8

No cargo will be received on board after sunset on the day previous to sailing.

THROUGH TICKETS FROM TRIESTE TO LONDON.

Via Vienna, the Rhine, Ostende or Calais and Dover, are granted by the Undersigned at

	Via Calais.	Via Ostende.
First Class, Trieste to London	£12-3	£11-18
Second Class, Trieste to Cologne. First Class, Cologne to London	£9-19	£9-14

Travellers with through tickets are allowed lbs. 55 free luggage.

Tickets are available for two months from the date of departure from Trieste.

For information about the Weekly Mail service to and from CYPRUS, and for Freight, Passage, and further particulars, apply to the Company's Office.

J. JANNI,
Agent A. H. Lloyd's S. N. Company.

Sassoon House, 7, Elphinstone Circle, 28th Oct., 1878.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

THE following or other Steamers will be despatched for EUROPE :—

	Vessels.	Tons.	H.P.	Captains.	1878.
(*s*)	HINDOSTAN	3113	600	N. W. Haselwood	4th Nov.
—	BANGALORE	2063	500	E. G. Stead	11th do.
(*s*)	VENETIA	2726	450	C. G. Perrins	18th do.
—	BOKHARA	2932	450	W. D. Anderson	25th do.
(*s*)	NIZAM	2725	450	A. E. Barlow	2nd Dec.
—	SURAT	3141	530	G. C. Burne	9th do.
(*s*)	KAISAR-I-HIND	4200	700	R. Methven	16th do.
—	TRAVANCORE	1903	350	W. Barratt	23rd do.

Passengers are booked to ADEN, SUEZ, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, MARSEILLES, MALTA, GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON by every Mail. The Steamers marked (*s*) proceed direct to Southampton. By the others Passengers change vessels at Suez, and those for Brindisi, Ancona, Venice, and Marseilles are conveyed by Rail from Suez to Alexandria.

A Launch leaves the Company's Dock Head, Mazagon, at 3 p.m. on the day of sailing.

For Passage, &c., apply to

J. R. KELLOCK, Superintendent.

Bombay, 14th October 1878.

STEAM TO CEYLON, PENANG, STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

THE following Steamers will be despatched for the above ports, carrying H. M.'s Mails, and taking also Passengers and Cargo for Madras and Calcutta :—

Vessels.	Tons.	H.P.	Captains.	1878.
TEHERAN	2589	400	A. H. Johnson	12th Nov.
MONGOLIA	2833	530	A. Coleman	26th do.

A Launch leaves the Company's Dock Head, at Mazagon, at 3 p. m. on the day of sailing.

For Passage, &c., apply to

J. R. KELLOCK, Superintendent.

Bombay, 14th October 1878.

STEAM TO KING GEORGE'S SOUND, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, AND SYDNEY, CALLING AT GALLE AND COLOMBO.

THE following Steamers will be despatched for the above ports :—

Vessels.	Tons.	H.P.	Captains.	
ASSAM	3033	500	N. Stewart	8th Nov.
TANJORE	2263	450	W. W. Fentiman	6th Dec.

A Launch leaves the Company's Dock Head, at Mazagon, at 3 p.m. on the day of sailing.

For Passage, &c., apply to

J. R. KELLOCK, Superintendent.

Bombay, 14th October 1878.

NOTICE.—ANCHOR LINE, INDIAN SERVICE.—CONSIGNEES of CARGO, per S.S. INDIA, are hereby informed of the Steamer's ARRIVAL from GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL, and are requested to present their BILLS of LADING and to TAKE DELIVERY of their respective GOODS without delay.

W. & A. GRAHAM & Co., Agents.

SALES BY AUCTION.

CRAWFORD AND COMPANY,
3, MARINE STREET, BOMBAY.

BONA FIDE SALE.

AUCTION SALE of valuable and handsome carved blackwood household furniture, best crockery, plated and glassware, a first-class mahogany grand pianoforte by John Broadwood and Sons, best engravings and pictures, table ornaments, &c., at the Ridge, Malabar Hill.

THIS DAY, THURSDAY, the 31st Oct., sale commencing at 1 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co. will sell by Public Auction at his residence at the Ridge, Malabar Hill, the valuable and handsome household furniture, John Broadwood's pianoforte, &c., the property of J. A. Cassels, Esq., the same comprises richly engraved thin-stem glassware, neat and handsome white-and-green gold band dinner service, white-green-and-gold superior porcelain dessert service, fancy flower painted stone china breakfast service, neat and elegant Harlequin breakfast service, white blue and gold bachelor tea service, best electroplated mother-o'-pearl-handle dessert knives and forks, breakfast cruet, ice pail, cake basket, flower stand, muffineers, candlesticks, dining, drawing-room, card, work, wine, washing and dressing tables, Ottoman sofa and reclining couches, easy-arm drawing room, low and folding chairs, book shelves, toilet-hat, flower and music stands, dumb waiters, sideboard, screens, wardrobe, clothes and gown presses, a first class solid mahogany grand pianoforte by John Broadwood and Sons, piano stool, campcots, glass fish aquarium, cheval and toilette glasses, chest of drawers, punkas, green-painted iron fore-post beadstead complete, gilt clock by Hallett Hastings, gilt and painted real china porcelain flower jars on stands, table ornaments, parian busts and flower vases, handsome engravings and cromo lithographs, dispense and bath-room furniture, cooking utensils, gentleman's saddle with bridle, books, &c., &.

Catalogues are published and the property is on view.

AUCTION SALE of valuable and handsome household furniture, plated, glass and porcelain wares on the top floor of our office No. 3, Marine Street, Fort.

TO-MORROW, FRIDAY, the 1st November, at 2 P.M., Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co. will sell by Public Auction the household furniture of W. Pearson, Esq.

A buffalo with calf giving 7 or 8 seers milk.

Full particulars will appear hereafter.

SALE OF UNSERVICEABLE ORDNANCE STORES.

TO-MORROW, FRIDAY, the 1st November, sale commencing at 10-30 a.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. will sell by Public Auction at the Bombay Arsenal by order of the Commissary of Ordnance.

A quantity of unserviceable ordnance stores.

AUCTION SALE of valuable and handsome teakwood and blackwood French polished household furniture, best crockery glass, and platedware, Brussels carpets, argand lustres by Tucker and Son, a sweet toned rosewood square pianoforte by Schiedmayer and Soehne, a large size aviary with birds, a fire proof safe by Thomas Wither, &c., &c., No. 1, Bruce Lane, Fort, opposite the old Secretariat.

On SATURDAY, the 2nd November, sale commencing at 1 p. m., Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co., will sell by Public Auction at the abovementioned place, the valuable and handsome household furniture, pianoforte, &c., the property of Captain A. C. Clarke, changing his residence, the same comprises rich star cut glassware, white pink and gold dinner and breakfast services, transparent China dessert service, bachelor tea service, best electro-plated cruet stand, pickle liqueur and egg frames, hotwater curry dishes, tea and coffee services, biscuit box, butter cooler, breakfast cruets, bread baskets, salvers, table spoons and forks, candlesticks, table cutlery by Rogers and Son, French-polished blackwood and teakwood dining and drawing room, card, pier, side, lady's writing camp, dressing and washing tables, ottoman, sofa and reclining couches, tete-a-tete, easy, low, arm and without arm chairs, book, toilet, hat, flower, and music stands, dumb waiters, sideboard, screens, wardrobes, clothes and gown presses, chiffoneers, teapoys, Brussel's carpet, argand lustre, by Tucker and Son, a sweet-toned rosewood square pianoforte by Schiedmayer and Soehne, a large size aviary with birds, a fire-proof safe by Thomas Withers, piano stool, iron and French-polished teakwood Madras-pattern bedsteads complete, kerosine oil table lamps, pictures, a breach loading revolver, brass gilt time-pictures, flower pots, table ornaments, dispense and bath-room furniture, books, &c., &c.

Catalogues are published and the property is on view.

CRAWFORD & Co.

Bombay, 31st October 1878.

NOTICE.

MALIGNANT CHOLERA.

AS this is the season when this dread visitant generally makes its appearance, I wish to make it known to the Profession and the Public, that after years of exact and laborious experiments, both chemical and physical, I have discovered a CERTAIN SPECIFIC for this fearful malady. Pathological investigations, although carried on by some of the most eminent of the Faculty, has thrown no light upon the nature of this awful scourge. After half a century we are *in statu quo.*

My remedy will instantly check the purging and vomiting, relax the spasms of the muscles, re-establish the electrical balance, arrest the putrifactive change of the fluids, set free the action of the liver and kidneys, and promote a genial glow on the surface of the body, and this without the pernicious exhibition of *sedatives* and *astringents*. It is simple and *harmless*, and may be trusted in the hands of any person, who will follow the plain and easily to-be-understood directions that accompany each bottle. Persons wishing to have the remedy must send a remittance of Rs. 5 per bottle. This will include packing, but not postal charges. All orders *must* be accompanied by a remittance in full or they will not be attended to.

ARMED WITH THIS MEDICINE CHOLERA NEED NO MORE BE FEARED THAN A COMMON COLD.

Cholera poison and this medicine are directly antagonistic, and cannot remain in the body as such.

No Household, Hospital, Camp, Railway Station, Ship, Tea or Indigo Plantation should be without this remedy for a single day, and no journey, however slight, should be undertaken without a supply of this medicine.

SMALL DOSES OF THIS REMEDY TAKEN DAILY WILL ACT AS A CERTAIN PROPHYLACTIC AGAINST CHOLERA.

Address "GALEN," *Umballa.*

THOMSON & TAYLOR,
CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS,
RAMPART ROW, BOMBAY.

OLD SCOTCH WHISKEY,

A blending of the finest old Campbletown and Islay Whiskies, selected for us from the best Distilleries in Scotland, and now largely consumed in India.

Per dozen, Rs. 23.

ROYAL INDIANA CIGARS,
SPECIALLY MANUFACTURED FOR USE,

Per Box of 100, Rs. 3.

COCONADA CHEROOTS,
SPECIALLY MANUFACTURED FOR US

Per Box of 100, Rs. 2.

ÆRATED WATERS,
MANUFACTURED BY US AND UNSURPASSED IN EXCELLENCE.

Soda Water	per dozen	Rs. 0 12
Tonic Water	„	1 0
Lemonade	„	1 0
Gingerade	„	1 0
Potash Water.	„	0 12
Seltzer Water.	„	1 0

THOMSON AND TAYLOR,
RAMPART ROW, BOMBAY.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

STEAM TO ADEN, SUEZ, AND THE WESTERN PORTS OF ITALY.
(VIA SUEZ CANAL.)

NOTICE.—The Italian Mail Steamer ARABIA, Captain Serra' will sail as above on FRIDAY, the 1st November, at 4 p.m.

Passengers are requested to be on board at 3 p.m.

C. GRONDONA,
Agent Rubattino S. N. Company.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of CARGO per S. S. BELLONA, ARRIVED from LIVERPOOL, are requested to send in their BILLS of LADING for inspection, and DELIVERY ORDERS for our counter-signature, and be ready to TAKE DELIVERY of their respective GOODS as they come to hand.

No claims whatever will be admitted unless passed by the Captain before he leaves Bombay.

LYON & Co.,
Agents for the s. s. Bellona.

Bombay, 30th October 1878.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—NOTICE.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Chamber of Commerce will be held THIS DAY, at half-past 3 o'clock p. m., at the offices of the Chamber.

The attendance of members is particularly requested.

By Order of the Committee,

J. GORDON, Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 31st October 1878.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

TESTAMENTARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION.

In the MATTER of the LAST WILL and TESTAMENT of ALADIN PADUKHAN, deceased, late of Bombay, Khoja Suni, Mahomedan inhabitant.

RAHIMTOOLLA NOOR MAHOMED and ALLARAKHIA SAJUN, two of the Executors named in the said Will and Testament............Applicants.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the abovenamed applicants as such Executors as aforesaid have APPLIED to the said Court for PROBATE of the said WILL and TESTAMENT, reserving the right of their co-executors, ALI MAHOMED BHIMJEE and IBRAHIMBHOY SOOMAR, to apply for the same.—Dated this 30th day of October 1878.

MORESHWAR LAKSHMANJI,
Applicant's Attorney.

THE HYDERABAD (DECCAN) SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 34, Elphinstone Circle, on THURSDAY, the 14th November next, at 3 p.m., to pass Special Resolutions appointing new Secretaries, Treasurers and Agents in place of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co. who have become disqualified, and to substitute in Clauses 97 and 100 of the Articles of the Company, the name of the new Secretaries, Treasurers and Agents to be so appointed as aforesaid, in place of the name of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co., wherever the name of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co. appears.

DINSHAW MANOCKJEE PETIT,
NURSEY KESSOWJEE,
H. NOWROJEE,
Directors of the Hyderabad (Deccan) Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited.

Bombay, 30th October 1878.

NOTIFICATION.

General Department,
Bombay Castle, 30th October 1878.

NO. 3279.—With reference to Government Notification* No. 2540, dated 27th August last, relative to the offer of a Reward of Rs. 500 for the best English Sanitary Primer, the following advertisement by the Government of India is published for general information :—

* With reference to Government advertisement published in the *Bombay Gazette* of the 29th, 30th and 31st August 1878.

500 RUPEES REWARD.

The above reward will be given by the Government of India for the best SANITARY PRIMER, suitable for use in Indian schools, both English and Vernacular. The work must be in the English language, from which it will afterwards be translated into the principal languages of India; it must be simple, without theories, and thoroughly practical, showing in particular the chief sanitary defects of Indian towns and villages, and the best means of remedying these defects, and it must not cover more than from 24 to 30 pages of print of small pica octavo size. Competing Primers, either in print or very legible manuscript, to be sent so as to arrive not later than the 1st April 1879 at the Home Office, Calcutta. Each should bear a motto and have a sealed envelope attached with the same motto outside and the name of the author within.

C. BERNARD,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

Home Department, Simla, the 4th October 1878.

By Order of His Excellency the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,

E. W. RAVENSCROFT,
Chief Secretary to Government.

ASHANTEE HAMMOCKS,
ON SALE BY
TREACHER & COMPANY, (Ld.),
BOMBAY, BYCULLA, AND POONA.

SPORTING AMMUNITION.

CAPS.	SHOT.
CARTRIDGES.	WADDING.
POWDER.	SUNDRIES.

NEW MATERIALS AND APPLIANCES
Of every description
IMPORTED, ON INTRODUCTION TO HOME USE.
Detailed priced Catalogue on application.

TREACHER & COMPANY (Ld.)

GENUINE

GAYETTY'S MEDICATED PAPER,

both as a personal requisite and a preventive of a very distressing hœmorrhoidal malady is incomparably the best article produced for the purpose.

Packets containing 500 Sheets each Cash, Re. 1-8; Credit, Re. 1-12.

Of the Agents,
TREACHER & COMPANY, Ld.,
BOMBAY, BYCULLA, AND POONA.

SPARKLING AVALON,
THE NEW SPARKLING WINE,
MADE FROM THE MUST OF THE APPLE.

SPARKLING AVALON,
A Pure and Finished Wine.

SPARKLING AVALON,
An excellent Tiffin and Dinner Wine.

SPARKLING AVALON,
Exhilarating, Generous and Sound.

SPARKLING AVALON "CUP."
One of the choicest Cups that can be produced.

SPARKLING AVALON.
A Splendid Wine for tropical consumption.

Quarts per dozen	Cash Rs.	18
Pints „	„	10

SOLE AGENTS :

TREACHER & COMPANY, Ld.,
WINE MERCHANTS,
BOMBAY, BYCULLA, AND POONA.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The scale for these Advertisements is as follows :—Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1; each succeeding line 8 As. No trade advertisements are admitted under this scale.

THE MEMBERS of B. COMPANY are requested to ASSEMBLE in front of the New Secretariat at 6-30 a.m. on FRIDAY, 1st November. Scarlet Tunic, Blue Trousers, Forage Cap and Waist Belt.

WANTED BOARD and RESIDENCE in the Fort by a Bachelor. State terms to A. B., care of *Bombay Gazette* Office.

WANTED at once, a Clerk acquainted with English correspondence and accounts. One with some legal experience preferred. Salary Rs. 70. Apply to X.Y. *Gazette.*

LESSONS in FRENCH by a FRENCH GENTLEMAN. Terms moderate. Write to "A. B." care of this paper.

FOR SALE, Superior Bay PEGU PONY, HARNESS, and DOGCART (Croyden), together or separately. Apply "A. B. C," care of *Bombay Gazette* Office.

STRAYED, a small, short-haired, TERRIER BITCH, coat white and black, ears and tail cut, bears a collar with name. Information to be given to M. A. C., care of this paper.

INDIAN RAILWAY TRAVELLER'S GUIDE, showing every Railway Station on the Indian Lines, with Tables of Fares, and other information required by travellers, with a Coloured Map of India. Published monthly at the *Bombay Gazette* Office. Price As. 8.

CHEDDAR CHEESE, in cut, just imported at 13 Annas per lb., the whole Cheese 12 Annas per lb J. PEARSE, 22, Apollo Street.

TREACHER & COMPANY, LIMITED.

DRAWING INSTRUMENTS.

CASES BRASS INSTRUMENTS.	ARCHITECTS' and BUILDERS' SCALES.
CASES ELECTRUM INSTRUMENTS.	ENGINEERS' and TRIANGULAR SCALES.
SPARE INSTRUMENTS. HALF SETS.	PARALLEL and POCKET RULES.
BOWS. DIVIDERS. PROTRACTORS.	STRAIGHT EDGES. THE SQUARES.
PROPORTIONAL COMPASSES.	CURVES. SET SQUARES.
BEAM and POCKET COMPASSES.	DRAWING BOARDS. STENCIL PLATES.

SURVEYING INSTRUMENTS.

LEVELS. LEVELLING STAVES.	OPTICAL SQUARES.
CLINOMETERS. SEXTANTS.	CROSS STAFF HEADS.
PRISMATIC COMPASSES.	METALLIC TAPES.
MAGNETIC COMPASSES.	LAND CHAINS and ARROWS.

ARTIST' MATERIALS.

WATER COLOURS, In Cakes, Pans and Tubes.	OIL COLOURS, In Collapsible Tubes.
PAPERS. BOOKS. BLOCKS.	COLOUR BOXES. CANVAS.
TRACING PAPER and CLOTH.	PAPER. MILLBOARDS. PANELS.
SABLE and CAMEL HAIR BRUSHES.	SABLE and HOG HAIR BRUSHES.
PENCILS. CRAYONS. SAUCERS. SLANTS.	VARNISHES. OILS. MEDIA.

AND EVERY OTHER REQUISITE.

Illustrated Priced Catalogues can be had on application.

TREACHER & COMPANY, Ld.,
BOMBAY, BYCULLA, & POONA.

PIANOS! PIANOS!

JUST RECEIVED IN PERFECT CONDITION
A FEW
SCHIEDMAYER'S
SYMPATHETIC PIANOS.
Of Solid Walnut wood and made expressly
FOR INDIA.

Price Rs. 675 Nett Cash, inclusive of packing.

J. NEUBERG,
MEADOW STREET, BOMBAY.

WHAT DO WE SMOKE?

"HER MAJESTY'S HONOURABLE BOARD OF CUSTOMS having ANALYSED Messrs. J. F. ALLEN and CO.'S AMERICAN 'RICHMOND GEM,' and other BRANDS of CIGARETTES and TOBACCOS, Pronounce them PURE and UNADULTERATED."—*Vide London Press.*

The Pure and Unadulterated
AMERICAN CIGARETTES and SMOKING TOBACCOS
manufactured by
Messrs. J. F. ALLEN & Co., of Richmond, Virginia, U.S.
Are exclusively made from the purest and finest
SUN-CURED NATURAL LEAF TOBACCO.

Hence they can be smoked without fear of heartburn, dizziness in the head, or blistering the tongue. These Tobaccos are entirely free from stems, dust, flavouring, or adulteration of any kind, and are unequalled and renowned for their perfect purity, delicate aroma, and rare fragrance.

Messrs. J. F. ALLEN & Co.'s "RICHMOND GEM"
CIGARETTES and "RICHMOND GEM" Curly Cut TOBACCO.

And other Brands of Cigarettes and Smoking Tobaccos (the name and trade mark on every package) can now be had of the Wholesale Agents for India :—

TREACHER & CO., LIMITED, BOMBAY, BYCULLA & POONA.

N.B.—The Up-country Trade Supplied on Liberal Terms.

CLOSING OF THEIR POONA BRANCH.

MEIFFRE, NEVEU & CIE.,

FRENCH MILLINERY ESTABLISHMENT.

From this date all orders should be addressed to their Bombay House.

12th October, 1878.

FAVRE, LEUBA & CO.,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
23, RAMPART ROW,

BEG to draw the attention of intending purchasers to their large stock of LADIES, and GENTLEMEN'S GOLD and SILVER WATCHES, comprising 132 descriptions, which being all made at their own Manufactory permits them to offer them to the public at much cheaper rates than other firms, who obtain them through Agencies.

Twelve years' experience of the climate has assisted them in making Watches most adapted and suitable for India.

From their large stock they specially recommend the following —

THEIR Rs. 50 SILVER LEVER WATCH, in either open face, half hunting, or hunting case, in sizes to suit either Ladies or Gentlemen.

THEIR Rs. 75 SILVER LEVER WATCH, in extra strong and durable case, with Gold hinges, compensation balance, and hair spring Breguet.

THEIR Rs. 110 SILVER KEYLESS WATCH, in beautifully finished case, with Gold hinges and Gold winding nut.

The above Watches can also be had in Gold cases, either open face, half hunting or hunting, at Rs. 150, 200, and 250, respectively.

THEIR Rs. 40 GERMAN SILVER RAILWAY WATCH, Patent Lever Escapement
THEIR Rs. 60 FINE SILVER RAILWAY WATCH, do. do. do.
THEIR Rs. 60 GERMAN SILVER RAILWAY WATCH, do. do. do. Extra large size.

These Watches are guaranteed good Time-keepers; strong and serviceably made to suit the roughest work, being specially adapted for Railway employés.

The excellence of all the above Watches has been universally recognised and approved of, and our sales of them increase from year to year.

F. L. & Co. also beg to draw attention to their large stock of cheap Silver Watches in open face, hunting and half-hunting cases, Patent Lever Escapement, all excellent time-keepers, guaranteed for one year, at Rs. 25, 27, 30, 35, 40, and 45.

German Silver Keyless Watches, known as Soldiers' Watches, at Rs. 18, 20, 22, and 25.

Further details can be seen in our Catalogue, sent post free on application to all parts of India.

FAVRE, LEUBA & CO.,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS.

HOTELS.

THE CHOWK HOTEL, MATHERAN.

The above Hotel is now opened.

JEEWANJEE & Co.

Matheran, 5th October 1878.

THE BYCULLA HOTEL,
BELLASIS AND CLARE JUNCTION.
JEEVANJEE & Co., Byculla.

ALEXANDRA HOTEL AND PINTO'S HOTEL, MATHERAN.

MR. J. C. PINTO, the Proprietor of the both Hotels, begs to inform the Public that the above Hotels are now OPENED to VISITORS. There are seven separate Bungalows attached to the Hotels well adapted for Families, for whose comfort every care is taken. The Hotels are well situated, occupy a central position, and are therefore very conveniently placed within the reach of several POINTS. They are also nearest to the Station and in a breezy locality under the shade of large trees, which diminish the glare and keep the extensive compound always fresh and cool. Mr. Pinto undertakes to look after Bungalows on the Hill at a charge of Rs. 30 per annum. The following BUNGALOWS are TO LET for next season :—

PARBUT HOUSE, an excellent view, well-furnished and fitted for two families. Rent Rs. 350.

WADIA LODGE, a large bungalow, good view and furnished Rent Rs. 350.

KEEPSAKE, nice view. Rent Rs. 250.

BUND SIDE. Rent Rs. 200.

SAINT MONICA HOTEL, GOA.

IN accordance with permission obtained from His Grace the Archbishop of Goa and Primate of the East, the undersigned begs to notify that he will shortly OPEN the above Hotel for the convenience of the nobility and gentry who intend visiting the SHRINE of the VENERATED APOSTLE of the INDIES during the forthcoming EXPOSITION.

The Hotel being located in the spacious rooms of the Royal Convent of Saint Monica, which is situated on the brow of a hill, in a cool and salubrious locality, commands a fine view of the country for miles around, is exposed on all sides to the sea breeze, and is within five minutes' walk of the Convent of Bom Jesus, where the body of the Saint will be exposed.

The above Hotel will be conducted under able management, and the Proprietor begs to notify that he has spared no expense in rendering the accommodation all that can be desired, whilst the Wines, Spirits, and Beer have been obtained from the best London and Paris houses; also that for the further comfort of visitors he intends establishing a Floating Hotel at Old Goa as well as an Hotel at Nova Goa, Pangim.

As the Exposition will commence on the 3rd December 1878, and probably terminate in a month or so, it is expected that the influx of visitors will be so great that the Proprietor deems it advisable to remind gentlemen of engaging their accommodation beforehand and to lose no time in applying to him, by whom they will be furnished with a letter of guidance to enable them to visit with comfort the surrounding places of interest.

A. F. D'COSTA, Proprietor.

Nova Goa.

WINES, SPIRITS, BEER, &c.

McEWAN'S BEER.

THE NEW BREW is now being received; it is of excellent quality and is highly recommended.

Prices for Cash Quarts ....Rs. 4 8 per doz. in Casks of 4 doz.
Pints .... „ 2 12 „ „ 7 doz.
Hogshead .. „ 53 0 per hhd.

Apply to

WALLACE & Co.,
Sole Agents,
Parsee Bazaar Street, Bombay.

NOTICE.

PATRONS.

H. M. THE QUEEN, EMPRESS OF INDIA,
THE ADMIRALTY, &c. &c.

We beg to inform the Public that we have

13	descriptions of Sherry Wine to select from.
10	assorted qualities of Claret, in Quarts and Pints.
8	assorted qualities of Champagne, in Quarts and Pints.
15	assorted qualities of German Wines, in Quarts and Pints.
4	assorted qualities of Port, in Quarts and Pints.
9	assorted qualities of Cognac.
3	assorted qualities of Whisky.
11	assorted qualities of Cordials.
3	assorted qualities of Mineral Waters.

Our terms are liberal and our prices consistent with quality. Price Lists on application.

CUTLER, PALMER & CO., BOMBAY.

For Bass and Guinness, we have PATENTS that insure perfect condition of these beverages in bottles, and our prices are as low as those of competing Houses who have not the Patents referred to.

NOTICES.

FOR SALE,

THE MANGALAAD ESTATE, situated at head of Kotiaddi Pass, North Wynaad, containing 182 acres, about 114 acres Coffee in bearing and 68 acres Forest, Bungalow, Cooly Lines, &c.

For further particulars apply to

Messrs. PEIRCE, LESLIE & Co., Calicut.

SEEDS! SEEDS!! SEEDS!!!

PALEKAR & Co., Kalbadavi Road, Bombay, beg most respectfully to announce to their local and up-country customers, that they have just received from England and Cape of Good Hope their FIRST SUPPLY of Fresh FLOWER and VEGETABLE SEEDS. It is particularly requested that out-station orders should always be accompanied by remittances or reference for payment in Bombay. Price lists can be had Post free on application.

15th August, 1878.

SCOTT & CO., M.R.C.V.S.,
VETERINARY SURGEONS.

HORSE EXAMINATION CERTIFICATES, Rs. 10; Examination and Verbal Opinion, Rs. 5; Livery for Horses on Commission sale, Rs. 35 per month including syce; Horses in infirmary Re. 1 per day; Commission Rs. 17 from purchaser and seller on horse sold.

Every care and attention devoted to Shoeing and Breaking to Harness, both being under our immediate supervision. Horses sent from up-country will meet with a ready market.

HAVELOCK TOBACCO.

THIS FAVORITE BRAND can always be had from stock in any size wanted on application to

WALLACE & Co.,
Parsee Bazaar Street,
Sole Agents in Bombay for this Tobacco.

WALLACE & Co. are prepared to take Indents or orders F. O. B. at lower prices than can be taken by other parties as they are the authorized agents of

Messrs. Wm. CAMERON & BRO.

SAMPLES OF HILL TEA DIRECT FROM THE PLANTATION,
Retail, at Wholesale Rates for Cash.

ALL FINE TEAS, FRESH,—FROM SPRING FLUSHES.

IN two lb. *Lead foil* packets, black, green, half of each, or mixed. Two packets (4 lbs.) in one well secured parcel by post (paid) for Rs. Five only.

Apply with remittance by currency note, hoondy, cheque, or money order (former posted in halves) to E. D'ABREU, Manager, Cheera-Pani, Tea Plantation, via Almorah, Kumaon.

MESSRS. W. NICOL & Co.,
METAL MART & BYCULLA IRON WORKS,

AGENTS for Clayton and Shuttleworth's Portable Engines, J. and H. Gwynne's Centrifugal Pumps Aveling and Porter's Steam Road Rollers, D. New and Co., Machine Tools, Val de Travers Asphalte Co., Silicate Paint Co., &c. Specialities from these Makers always available, also Fire Engines, Hand Pumps, Pipes, Engineers and Contractors' Plant and Iron of all qualities.

Ornamental and general Castings, Forgings, Girders, Roofs, Cranes, Mortar and Soorkie Mills, and all classes of Ironwork executed with despatch under European superintendence at the BYCULLA IRON WORKS.

ALLAN'S
SUPERIOR TWEED SUITS.

Coat and Trousers	Rs. 16, 20 & 25
Fine Black and Blue Serge Suits	Rs. 26
Fine Black Cloth Morning Coats	„ 36
Do. Frock Coats	„ 40

DRESS AND OXFORD CLOTH SHIRTS MADE TO ORDER.

New Pattern Oxford Cloth Shirts with Collars, six for	Rs. 30
French Cambric Fancy Stripes and Spots, six for	„ 27

5, HUMMUM STREET.

PRIZE MEDAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1874.

ROWLAND AND Co.,
SADDLERY AND HARNESS ESTABLISHMENT,
25, MEADOW STREET, FORT,
Opposite the Oriental Bank,
BOMBAY.

ALL DESCRIPTIONS of SADDLERY, HARNESS, MILITARY and POLICE ACCOUTREMENTS, Double and Single Leather Machine Bands, Fire Engine Hose and Buckets, &c., EXECUTED of the best materials under a highly experienced Foreman at reasonable rates and on the shortest notice.

Consignments of the above, as also of Gold, Silver and Electroplated mounted Whips, Spurs, Bridles of all descriptions, Fancy Leather Goods, Gymkhana Kits, &c., are regularly received.

Out-station Orders should be accompanied by a remittance or reference for payment in Bombay.

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

ANY PERSON having a CLAIM against or being INDEBTED to the ESTATE of the late CAPTAIN HENRY FITZHARDINGE BERKELEY, 3rd Hussars, is requested to communicate with the undersigned within one month.

C. S. WALKER, Captain,
President Committee of Adjustment.

Mhow, October 28th 1878.

THE DHOLLERA PRESS AND GINNING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a DIVIDEND of Rs. 15 per share will be PAID on and after 1st November 1878, to those shareholders whose name stand on the register on the 22nd October, 1878.

Shareholders are requested to PRODUCE their SHARE CERTIFICATES when applying for Dividend Warrants.

GREAVES, COTTON & Co., Managers.

Bombay, 23rd October 1878.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned beg to state that they have been appointed SOLE AGENTS, in the room of Messrs. Jeewanjee Eduljee and Sons, for the sale of CURTIS'S and HARVEY'S CELEBRATED SPORTING GUNPOWDER, and they are now prepared to execute all orders entrusted to them with promptness and dispatch.

HEPTOOLA SHAIK ADAM & Co.,
Sole Agents,
No. 6, Apollo Street Fort.

Also, we have in stock SHIPCHANDLERY, MILL and RAILWAY STORES.

Bombay, 27th September 1878.

500 RUPEES REWARD.

THE above Reward will be given by the Government of India for the best SANITARY PRIMER suitable for use in Indian schools both English and Vernacular. The work must be in the English language from which it will afterwards be translated into the principal languages of India; it must be simple, without theories and thoroughly practical, shewing in particular the chief sanitary defects of Indian towns and villages and the best means of remedying these defects; and it must not cover more than from 24 to 30 pages of print of small pica octavo size. Competing primers either in print or *very legible* manuscript to be sent so as to arrive not later than the 1st April 1879 at the Home Office, Calcutta. Each should bear a motto and have a sealed envelope attached with the same motto outside and the name of the Author within.

C. BERNARD,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

Home Department, Simla, 4th October 1878.

WAR MAPS.

AFFGHANISTAN MAP, 24 miles=1 inch, 2 sheets, prepared at the office of the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India, Dehra Dun, Rs. 4.

Ditto 16 miles=1 inch, prepared at Quartermaster General's Office, Simla, 2 sheets, Rs. 6.

SKETCH of COUNTRIES between Hindustan and the Caspian Sea, bound cloth, book form, Rs. 4.

PESHAWUR to CABUL, 4 miles=1 inch, being sheets 4 and 14 of the Indian Atlas, book form, Rs. 10.

THACKER AND CO., LIMITED.

FOR SALE,

A VICTORIA SOCIABLE LANDAU, nearly new. Price Rs. 1,000.

A circular-fronted Brougham by Mr. Collet, of Bombay, nearly new. Price Rs. 1,000, (cost Rs. 1,400).

An English-built Canoe Barouche by Kesterton of Long-acre, with a pair of Chestnut Arab Horses and brass-mounted harness. Price Rs. 2,200. Apply to

JAFFER SULLIMAN & Co.,
Girgaum, Bombay.

TO BE LET,

A LARGE COMMODIOUS FURNISHED BUNGALOW at Breach Candy, called "SOMERSET HOUSE," up to the end of April 1879. Rent moderate. Apply to

JAFFER SULLIMAN & Co.,
Girgaum, Bombay.

MOFUSSIL COMPANY, LIMITED.

WHEREAS at the EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company held on the 23nd instant, the following Special Resolution was submitted to the meeting, viz :—"That Messrs. Gaddum and Co. be appointed Secretaries and Treasurers of the Company in the place and stead of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co.," and whereas a BALLOT was duly demanded at the said meeting on such Special Resolution. Now NOTICE is hereby given, that the ballot on the abovementioned Special Resolution will be held between the hours of 1 p. m. and 5 p. m. on FRIDAY, the 1st day of November next, at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 34, Elphinstone Circle, within the Fort of Bombay, Messrs. C. A. WINTER and NOWROJEE JEHANGEER GAMADIA acting as Scrutineers at such ballot. And notice is hereby further given, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at 3 o'clock p. m. on TUESDAY, the 5th day of November next, at the Registered Office of the Company aforesaid, when the result of the ballot aforesaid will be declared.

THOS. H. MOORE,
Chairman of the Board of the Mofussil Company, Limited.

Bombay, 28th October 1878.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.
(No. 23.)

BAY OF BENGAL, COAST OF BURMA.

REPORTED SHOAL, NORTH-WEST OF CHEDUBA ISLAND.

MR. W. E. HUTCHINSON, Commanding the British India Steam Navigation Company's Steamer Avagyee, whilst on a voyage from Bassein to Kyouk Phyoo, observed heavy rollers and breakers indicative of a shoal patch, with probably only 2 or 3 fathoms at low water, lying 8 miles to the north-west of Beacon island, Cheduba, coast of British Burma.

From the shoal, West point of Ramree island bears N. by E. ½ E., and the north-west point of Cheduba island S. E. by S., which places it in latitude 19° 2' N., and longitude 93° 21' 30" E.

CAUTION.—The whole of the neighbourhood of Cheduba and Ramree islands is imperfectly known, and careful navigation is necessary.

[The bearings are Magnetic : Variation 2° 55" Easterly in 1878.]

By Direction of the Government of India,

A. DUNDAS TAYLOR, Comdr. (late I. N.),
Superintendent, Marine Survey of India.

Marine Survey Department, Calcutta, 15th October 1878.

This Notice affects the following Admiralty Charts :—Cheduba strait and Ramree harbour, No. 832; Elephant point to Cheduba, No. 821; Bassein river to Pulo Penang, No. 830; Bay of Bengal, No. 705; Indian Ocean, No. 748b; and Taylor's Sailing Directory, Vol. I, page 490.

If this Notice is received on boardship, the substance of it should be inserted on the Charts affected by it, and introduced into the Sailing Directions to which it relates.

JOHN A. M. MACDONALD, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES!

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
HAVING THE
LARGEST MANUFACTORIES in the WORLD,
With every facility for a production of
8,000 MACHINES PER WEEK,
Have determined to give the Public the full benefit of their enormous manufacturing facilities.

This large Reduction in their Prices, and their exceptionally easy terms of payment, by instalments to approved buyers,

Will enable Everyone now to become possessed of one of these

UNEQUALLED SEWING MACHINES,
Price from Rs. 60.

Catalogues and lessons free.

No Home need now be without one of these Popular Machines.

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
6, ELPHINSTONE CIRCLE,
BOMBAY.

BOLTON AND CO.,
GENERAL MERCHANTS,
THE FORT, BOMBAY, AND BELLASIS ROAD, BYCULLA.

HAVE just unpacked a large selection of TOILET REQUISITES, Viz.:—

Lubin's Scent of all kinds.
„ Pomade.
„ Cosmetique.
„ Soap.
Piver's Scent of all kinds.
„ Eau de Cologne in large bottles.
„ Ditto in small bottles.
„ Pomade.
„ Hair Douche.
„ Toilet cases complete.
„ Scent in cut glass stoppered bottles.
„ Quinine Hair Douche.
„ Cold Cream.
„ Toilet Vinegar.
„ Dentifrice Cologne Water.
„ Opopanax Hair Oil.
„ Eau Dentifrice.
„ Brillantine.
„ Bandoline
Le Grand Perfumery of all kinds.
Smyth's and Nephew's Perfumery of all kinds.
Baby's Powder.
Hendrie's Violet Powder.
Rimmel's Soap in boxes.
„ Pomade.
„ Brillantine.
„ Hair Dye.
„ Egg Wash.
„ Lime Juice and Glycerine.
„ Toilet Vinegar.
„ Lavender Water.
„ Photochrome.
„ Soap in boxes, viz.:—Honey, Glycerine, Army and Navy Brown Windsor, Rose, &c.
Mrs. Allen's Hair Restorer.
„ Zylo-Balsamum.
Mexican Hair Renewer.
Rossetter's Hair Restorer.
Genuine Eau de Cologne.
Fragrant Floroline.
Dr. Locock's Lotion.
Rowland's Macassar Oil of all sizes.
„ Kallydor.
„ Odonto.
„ Eukonia.
„ Balm of Columbia.
Cleaver's Cantharides Hair Wash.
„ American Bay Rum.
„ Trebene Tooth Powder.
„ „ Cream.
„ Ylangelang.
„ Soap in Boxes, viz.:—Honey, Glycerine, Tar, Jockey Club, Glycerine and Cold Cream, Trebene, &c.
Pears' Transparent Soap of all kinds.
Mollar's Sulphur Pomade.
Comman's Arecanut Tooth Paste.
Calvert's Carbolic Soap.
Godfrey's Extract of Elder Flower.
Truffitt's Euchrisna.
„ Toin Loticon.
American Bay Leaf Water.
Toilet sets in great variety.
„ Bottles
Glass Powder Boxes.
Powder Puffs of sizes.
Toilet Sponges.
Coal Tar-soap.
McDougal's Carbolic Soap in Bars.
Lloyd's Euxis.
Carbolic Tooth Powder.
Rimmel's Soap in Bars.
„ Cosmetique.
„ Cherry Tooth Paste.

BOLTON & CO.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 30TH, 1878.

YESTERDAY'S Home telegrams continue to report very unfavourably on the Produce Markets generally, and here the trade of the place is almost at a standstill.

At the Weekly Board Meeting of the Directors of the Bank of Bombay this afternoon no alteration was made in the rates of discount and interest.

Consols have declined to 94½, which is ¼ below Monday's quotation. Rentes are ¼ lower, being now quoted at 112½. A payment of £625,000 into the Bank of England is reported, but the rate of discount in the open market on 3 months' Bank Bills is apparently still 5¾ per cent. per annum, as no fresh quotation is given.

The Manchester Piece Goods Market yesterday was reported dull at unchanged prices, and Cotton in Liverpool closed flat with sales only amounting to 5,000 bales, of which 500 were Surats. Quotations are again 1-16 to ⅛ per lb. lower, Middling Orleans being now at 6¼d., and Fair Dhollera 4⅜ per lb., and Good Fair Westerns 4½d. per lb. The excessive weakness of the position of the staple is apparent from the fact that the price of Futures in New York yesterday was 3-16 cents. lower notwithstanding comparatively light receipts.

The New York telegrams of yesterday quote ready Mid. Uplands at 9½ cents., and January shipment at 9⅝ cents. per lb. The Receipts at the ports to date are as follows:—

	1878.	1877.	1876.
Tuesday's Receipts..	25,000	31,000	32,000
Four days' ,,	81,000	92,000	104,000
Total since 1st Sept..	923,000	648,000	914,000

The rate of Exchange between New York and London is unchanged at 4·82½, and between Paris and London at Francs 25·32.

Reuter reports a further advance of ¼d. in Bar Silver, which is confirmed by private advices, the quotation in London now being 50¼d. per oz.

STERLING EXCHANGE to-day, owing to the improvement in Silver, has shown rather more firmness, and rates have advanced 1-16 all round. Very little has been done here, however, pending the announcement of the allotment of Council Drafts in London, and as it is improbable that the Bills will be allotted, we may expect increased firmness to-morrow.

In Calcutta, however, rates are no stronger, as the Banks there are buyers of 6 months' sight Bills at 1-8⅛ per Rupee.

To-day's quotations are:—

Bank Bills, on demand			...1s. 7 3-16d.	per Re.
Do.	6 months' sight		...1s. 7 15-16d.	,,
Credits,	3	,, ,,	...1s. 8d.	,,
Documents,	3	,, ,,	...1s. 8 1-16d.	,,
Francs	3	,, ,,	...2·12.	,,

On Calcutta rates are unchanged at par for demand, but 60 days' sight Bills are now quoted at ½ per cent. discount.

GOVERNMENT PAPER remains in the same position. There is nothing of any importance doing, but values are steadily maintained. We quote:—Fours at Rs. 94; Fours-and-a-half Rs 94⅛; and New Fours-and-a-half Rs. 99⅞ to Rs. 100.

The SHARE MARKET is dull, and the few changes in our quotations are, as a rule, in favour of buyers. Bank shares are unchanged, with the exception of Agras, which have declined Rs. 2. There is no alteration to report in Land Companies. In Spinning and Weaving Companies' Scrip Alexandras have declined Rs. 10, Bombay United Rs. 10, Morarjees Rs. 5, Nicol P. and M. Co. Rs. 25. Great Easterns have advanced Rs. 10 and Orientals Rs. 5. In Press Companies Berars and Mofussils have advanced, and Scinde declined, Rs. 5 per share. In Miscellaneous Companies the only alteration is a drop of Rs. 10 in Landing and Shipping Co. of Kurrachee.

In COTTON there is absolutely nothing doing, and quotations for both Old and New are unchanged.

SEEDS are unaltered in every respect. Linseed is still quoted at Rs. 6-13 to Rs. 6-14, and Rapeseed nominal at Rs. 7-8. In Wheat there is no alteration to report.

FREIGHTS remain as dull as ever, the nominal quotation for Liverpool by steamer being 10s. per ton, but few engagements are being made, and business by sail is still a dead letter.

In PIECE GOODS business is still very quiet, although there is a moderate offtake from the Bazaar for up-country consumption. For local-made Yarns there is still a fair market, but the last China Mail brings less favourable reports of Bombay Spinnings, only 1,535 bales having been sold against 2,122 bales of English makes in Hongkong, owing to large arrivals of the former and absence of demand for Japan. For the counts below No. 14, however, there was still a good enquiry.

COALS are unchanged.

BOMBAY BILL AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

Bank.	No. of Shares.	Noml. Value p. sh.	Paid up.	Last Dividend.	Cash. Rates per Share.
		Rs.	Rs.	p. s.	
Agra Bank	100,000	100	all	6 p. ct	138
Bank of Bengal	40,000	500	all	10 do	725
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	12 do	687½
Bank of Madras	60,000	500	all	10 do	675
National Bank of India.	37,320	£25	£12-10	6 do	106

LAND COMPANIES.

Colaba Land Co. (New).	2,948	2,000	all	15 p.s*	875 xd
Frere Land and Pier Co. Limited	7,500	150	all	4 p. s.	120
Mazagon Land	1,750	2,000	1,000	20 p. s.	880
Port Canning Land Company, Limited	6,000	1,400	all	15 p.s.	215 xd

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

G. I. P. Railway Consolidated Stock	..	£20	218·3·0	p. ct	300
Do. New £20 Shares	—	£20	130·14·6	do	26
Ditto	—	£20	65·7·3	do	72
Ditto	..	£20	21·13·1	do	32
B. B. and C. I. Ry. Co.	—	£100	1,000	do	1,100
Do. New Shares.	..	£18	196·5·15	do	250

PRESS COMPANIES.

Akbar Cotton Press Co..	150	5,000	28,500	150 p.s.	1,200
Albert Co., Kurrachee..	200	2,000	1,100	125 do	990
Albert Ginning Co.	100	500	all	18 p.ct	500
Apollo Press Co.	750	2,750	2,200	32 p.s.	560
Bellary	175	1,000	all	25	650
Berar Company (New)..	155	500	all	60 p.s	460
Indian Press Co.	1,000	350	all	14 do	110
Broach Cotton Co	400	250	all	10 do	66
Carwar Co	1,000	1,500	all	75 do	500
Colaba Press Co	500	1,880	all	50 do	550
Dhollera P. and G. Co.	500	300	all	15 do	175 xd.
East India Press Co..	352	1,000	all	100 do	920
Fort Press Co	50	8,500	1,250	50 do	1,100
French Press Co.	300	500	all	75 p.s.	380
Mofussil Press and Ginning Co.	1,125	400	350	30 do	285
Prince of W. Press	120	..	1,500	250 do	350
Sassoon's Press Co.	600	500	all	25 do	320
Scinde Press Co	400	850	750	60 do	400
Scinde & Punjaub Cotton Press Co., Ld.	100	1,000	925	150 do	1,225
Victoria Cotton Gin and Press Co	150	850	all	12 p.ct	600
Volkart's United Press Co.	50	1,000	1,000	75 p.s.	650

* Per Share for the half-year.

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

Albert Mills	400	2,000	1,700	—	750
Alexandra S. and W. Co.	2,250	[illegible]	all	25 p.s.	270
Alfred Mills Co.	250	1,000	1,000	50 p.s.	1,100
Alliance Spinning	500	2,500	all	55 p.	1,750
Anglo-Indian S. and W. Company	30,000	100	100	2 p.ct	90
Bhownuggur M. and P. Company	300	2,000		40 p.s.	1,250
Bombay United	900	1,000	all	35 p.s*	965
Bombay Hemp and Jute Mill Company	2,000	300	all	15 p.s*	180
Broach Mills	1,800	150	all	10 p.s*	42
Colaba S. and W. Co.	900	1,000	all	25 p.s*	675
Coorla S. and W. Co.	1,000	1,000	all	30 p.s*	850
Central India S. and W. Company	2,500	500	450	30 p. s.	645 xd.
Dhurumsey Spinning	3,000	3,000	all	35 p.s*	730
Empress S. and W. Co.	700	500	350	..	340
Fleming S. and W. Co.	3,750	500	all	40 p.s*	410
Great Eastern	1,400	1,000	all	20 p.s*	1,110
Hindustan S. & W. Co.	875	1,000	all	35 p.s.	970
Hydrabad S. and W. Co	700	1,000	1,000	..	800
Jewraj Balloo Mills	750	1,000	all	35 p.s*	870
Khandeish Spinning	750	1,000	all	50 p.s*	925
K. Muconjee S. & W. Co.	1,000	1,000	all	50 p.s*	775
Madras Spinning	300	1,250	all	Nil	700
Madras U. Spinning	425	1,000	all	70 p.s*	1,235
Manchester & Bombay S. and W. Co.	30,000	50	50	..	30
Mandvie S. and W. Co.	1,200	500	all	25p.s*	340
Manockjee Petit's	2,500	1,000	all	40p.s*	1,275
Morarjee Spinning	1,043	1,000	all	40 p.s*	1,200
Mazagon S. and W. Co.	2,000	5,000	..	..	250
National S. and W. Co. of India	950	1,000	all	35 p.	870
Neriad S. and W. Co.	400	1,000	all	—	300
Nicol Press Manufacturing Co., Ld.	600	2,000	all		425
Nursey S. and W. Co.	2,500	400	all	10 p.s*	305
Oriental	1,000	625	all	25 p.s*	730
Prince of Wales Spinning	600	1,250	all	75	1,020
Sassoon S. & W. Co.	1,500	1,000	all	25 p.s.	890
Soonderdas Spinning	650	1,000	all	75 p.s.	730
Do do. ½ Share.	600	1,000	250	125 p.s.	220
Sholapore S. and W. Co.	500	1,000	all	20 p. s.	940
Victoria Mills	550	1,000	all	25 p. s.	700

* Per Share for the half-year

MISCELLANEOUS.

Bombay Burmah Trading Corporation	1,000	2,500	,500	187½p.s	1,930
Bombay Fire Insurance Co.	150	10,000	3,000	250p. s.	3,000 xd.
Bombay Gas Company..	50,000	50	all	7½ p. ct	58
Bombay Saw Mills Co..	600	1,000	all	80 p. s.	600
Landing and Shipping Co of Kurrachee, Ld.	500	500	300	36 p. s.	215
Malabar Company, Ld.	1,150	200	100	7½ p. ct	50
Mechanical Buildings Co.	1,000	500	all	p. s.	17
Prince of Wales Insurance Company	250	8,000	1,000	75 p. s.	1,050
Treacher and Co.	1,990	500	all	62½ p.s.	665
Viegas Patent Slip Co.	300	250	all	6 p. ct	28

BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY.

Statement of Traffic for the week ending 26th October 1878.

Open, 444 Miles.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Coaching	35,873	0	0
Merchandize	45,748	0	0
Other Receipts	200	0	0
Telegraph	550	0	0
Total Rs.	82,371	0	0

Corresponding week in September 1877.

Open 444 Miles.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Coaching	52,449	0	0
Merchandize	55,780	0	0
Other Receipts	5,000	0	0
Telegraph	470	0	0
Total Rs.	1,13,699	0	0
Decrease Rs.	31,328	0	0

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE AND LISTS OF PASSENGERS BY SEA.

THE s.s. AVONDALE, 1,204 tons, Captain S. E. Elcoate, sailed yesterday for Coast and Madras, in ballast.

THE GOVERNMENT LINE s.s. SCOTLAND, 1,694 tons, Captain J. M. James, sailed yesterday for Kurrachee.

THE P. AND O. CO.'s s.s. BANGALORE, 1,309 tons, Captain E. G. Stead, arrived in harbour yesterday from Aden and Suez, with the English Mails, and the following cargo:—534 packages piecegoods, 107 cases beads, 13 packages wire, 194 packages fruit, 70 packages papers, 8 cases thread, 21 cases needles, 18 packages color, 10 cases saffron, 50 cases brass, 507 bars iron, 290 cases boots, 352 boxes silver, 6 cases books, 4 packages specie, 5 bundles E. teeth, 24 packages gum, 2 packages silk, 1 package wax, and many packages merchandise.

ARRIVAL OF THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

THE P. AND O. CO.'s s.s. ASSAM, 1,747 tons, Captain N. Stewart, arrived in harbour yesterday from Australia, with Australian Mail, general cargo and the following passengers:—Mr. Taylor, Mrs. Kellept, Mr. and Mrs. Cruise and child, Mr. and Mrs. Skinner and family, Mr. and Mrs. Leey and infant, Mr. and Master Tighe and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Higgins and five children, Mrs. Carbery, Mr. and Miss Barton, Mr. and Mrs. Macindoe, Mr. Butterworth, Mr. Leiprer, Mr. Smith, Mr. Sbim, Mr. Buckland, two Misses Buckland, Mrs. Latham, Mrs. Jacobs, and Mr. and Mrs Muncherjee and infant.

ARRIVALS.

Oct.	Vessels.	Commanders.	From.
30	Bangalore (s)	Stead	Venice, Oct 4.
	Assam (s)	Stewart	Melbourne, Oct 4.

DEPARTURES.

Oct.	Vessels.	Commanders.	Destinations.
30	H M S Euphrates..	Brown	England.
	Citadel	McGee	Sandhead.
	Glenroy	Crockstedt	Calcutta.
	Avondale(s)	Elcote	Coast and Madras.
	Scotland (s)	James	Kurrachee.

The following vessels were entered for loading yesterday:—

Steamer Hindostan, to Southampton.
Steamer Africa, to Coast and Calcutta.
Steamer Bangalore, to Aden and Suez.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Oct.
25 Euphrates (s)...... Paterson ...... Singapore, Oct 5.
26 Peshawur (s)...... White...... Southampton, Sept 19.
Goa (s)...... Turner...... Bombay, Oct 5.

DEPARTURES.

Oct. 25.—Steamer Virginia Schilizzi. Ship West Ridge.
Oct. 26.—A Steamer (showed Q. W. M. N.) and a Steamer (numbers undistinguishable) and ship Dunfillan.

PASSENGERS.

Per Euphrates—Mrs Badham, 3 children, Count M Le Fez, Mr Watson, Mr Lingham, Mr Jowett, Miss Turner and childs

Per Goa—Major Simpson.

Per Peshawur—Dr Barry and Mr Ellis, Mrs Grant, Mrs Okinealy and infant, Mr Harber, Mrs Crook, Mr Campbell, Miss Lynch, Mr Brickwell, Mr and Mrs Grace, Mr Macdougall, Mr Beattie, Mr Mason, Mr Cox, Mr Alexander, Mr Martin, Dr Ruddock, Mr Verner, Mrs Murray, Mrs Prinsep, Mrs Cummins, Miss Varty, Miss Macpherson, Mrs Forster and 2 children, Mr Atkins, Mr Stanburry, Mr Brown, Miss Brown, Mr Witham, Mr Pain, Mr Inglis, Mr Dounce, Mr and Mrs Rigby, Mrs Mosley, Mr Lucas, Mrs Lacy and infant, Mr Bickmyre, Mr King, Mr Okey Min, Mr Sowmia Mamy, Wing Lui, Mr Manifois, Mr Bartlett, Mr Peel and Mr Cherry, Mr Ross, Lieut Macpherson, Dr and Mrs Palmer, Mr Crawford, Mr De St Hilaire, and Mr D Low.

MADRAS.

ARRIVALS.

Oct.
25 Rajpootana (s) ...... Calcutta.
26 Cyrene (s)...... Calcutta.
28 Khandalla (s) ...... Bombay.

DEPARTURES.

Oct.
25 Meinam (s) ...... Galle.
27 Rajpootana (s) ...... Bombay & S Port.

ADEN.

ARRIVALS.

Aug. 30 Chiltern, ss, Richardson, from Perim.
Sept. 29 Latona, ship, Shimmin, from Liverpool.
Oct. 4 Bennock Burn, ship, Young, from Cardiff.
5 Principi di Carlos P T, ship, Metzner, from Sea.
8 Wild Swan H M, ship, Dacres, from Mussowa.
15 Ducouecic F M of War, Besuard, from Toulon.
15 Lord of the Isles, ss, ———, from West.
15 Columbian, ss, Baldwin, from Bombay.
15 Vixen, ss, Wilson, from Bombay.
15 Kiser-i-Hind, ss, Methven, from London.
15 Patna, ss, Thomson, from London.
17 Radnorshire, ss, Thomson, from Kurrachee.
17 Ready H M, ss, Edwards, from Malta.
18 Ava, ss, Dickinson, from Calcutta.
18 Timor, ss, Ranton, from Calcutta.
18 Titian, ss, Crisp, from Newcastle.
18 Rydall Hall, ss, ———, from East.
18 Summersetshire, ss, Holt, from Melbourne.
18 Khedive, ss, Steward, from Shanghai.
19 Anadyr, ss, Moreau, from Marseilles.
20 Chyebassa, ss, Howell, from London.
20 Benarty, ss, Potter, from Rangoon.
20 Mercia, ss, Broker, from Samarang.
20 Sinch, ss, Brunet, from Shanghai.
20 Khiva, ss, Lee, from Bombay.
21 Godavery, ss, Baron, from Mauritius.
22 Strathairly, ss, Cassop, from Calcutta.
23 Imbat, ss, Steuart, from Foochow.

DEPARTURES.

Oct. 15 Lord of the Isles, ss, ———, to East P O.
16 Ducouecic, F M of War, Besuard, to China.
16 Kiser i-Hind, ss, Methven, to Bombay.
17 Columbian, ss, Baldwin, to Jeddah.
17 Patna, ss, Thomson, to Kurrachee.
18 Vixen, ss, Wilson, to Jeddah
18 Radnorshire, ss, Thomson, to London.
18 Ava, ss, Dickinson, to London.
18 Timor, ss, Ranton, to London.
18 Rydall Hall, ———, to West P O.
18 Summersetshire, ss, Holt, to London.
18 Khedive, ss, Stewart, to London.
20 Anadyr, ss, Moreau, to Shanghai.
20 Chyebassa, ss, Howell, to Calcutta.
20 Benarty, ss, Potter, to Malta F O.
20 Mercia, ss, Broker, to Marseilles.
21 Khiva, ss, Lee, to Venice.
21 Sindh, ss, Brunet, to Marseilles.
22 Strathairly, ss, Cassop, to London.
23 Imbat, ss, Steuart, to London.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

Chiltern, ss, Richardson, from Perim.
Latona, ship, Shimmin, from Liverpool.
Bennock Burn, ship, Young, from Cardiff.
Principi deCarlos, P T ship, Metzner, from Sea.
Wild Swan, H M ship, Dacres, from Mussowa.
Ready, H M ss, Edwards, from Malta.
Titian, ss, Crisp, from Newcastle.
Godavery, ss, Baron, from Mauritius.

DAILY IMPORTS.—OCTOBER 30.

FROM LIVERPOOL.

Trentham Hall s—30 cases stout, Eduljee Bazonjee; 2 cases thread, Abdoollally Shaik Adom; 25 cases bar soap, Nusserwanjee Framjee Gugrat.

FROM LONDON.

Lord of the Isles s—2 bales wall paper, Jewabhoy Heptoolabhoy; 14 packages printing papers, The Bombay Education Press.
Fleur de Lis s—50 barrels blasting gunpowder, Abdooally Essoobhoy; 25 barrels alum, Hugh D Fisher and Co.
Lord Ellington s—5 cases geneva, Eduljee Bazonjee.
Col stream—6 cases old tom, Jamsetjee Nowrojee.
Avondale s—2,672 bars iron, David Sassoon and Co; 50 cases champagne, Sir Charles Forbes and Co; 10 bags corks, D D Shah; 10 cases soap, Abdoolally Dawoodkhan.
Athol s—25 cases brandy, Cutler Palmer and Co.
Nizam s—5 cases glassware, Ludha Ebram and Co.
Kaiser-i-Hind s—50 cases eau-de-cologne, John S Elmore and Co; 75 cases yellow metal sheets and 145 cases copper sheets, Ritchie, Stewart and Co.
Wanlock—50 cases old tom, Pochajee Framjee and Co.

FROM GENOA.

India s—175 cases brandy, Sorabjee Cowasjee.
Arabia s—100 cases claret, Jules, Siegfried and Co.

FROM BORDEAUX.

Arabia s—15 bags corks, D D Shah; 70 cases brandy, Dhunjeebhoy Cowasjee.
Precurseur s—100 cases brandy, Nowrojee Ardaseer and Sons.
Union s—50 cases brandy, Nowrojee Ardaseer and Sons.

DAILY EXPORTS.—OCTOBER 30.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Trentham Hall s—40 bales wool, Lalljee Megjee; 30 casks cocoanut oil, Laldin Feerozdin; 737 bags rice, Nuthoo Soonderjee.

FOR LONDON.

Hindostan s—100 cwt buffalo horns, Esmall Gool Mahamed; 218½ cwts coir yarn, Hajee Tallub Arbee; 100 bales cotton and 7 bales skins, P and O S N Co; 43 bales hides, Goolamally Peerbhoy; 24 bales hides, Remoobhoy Russoolbhoy; 9 bales hides, Vullyjee Essajee; 6 bales hides, Dawood Hajee Sulliman; 3 bales hides and 19 bales skins, C M C A Akber and Co; 10 bales skins, C M C M C Ally and Co; 19 bales skins, C S Mahamed and Co; 59 bales skins and 14 bales hides, Ewart, Latham and Co; 33 bales hides, Vuzeer Hajee; 15 cwts mother-o'-pearl shells, Mahameda ly Rowjee; 179 pieces blackwood, Dattardina Mowjee; 157½ cwts coir yarn, Thomas H Moore and Co; 205 packages mother-o'-pearl shells, David Sassoon and Co; 11½ cwts coir yarn, Motichund Hurruckchund; 13 cwts coffee and 84 cwts san alwood, Alli-Mahamed Hassum; 240 pieces blackwood, Cassumbhoy Nanjee; 54½ cwts coir rope, Motichund Hurruckchund.

FOR MARSEILLES.

Arabia s—344 bags pepper, B I S N Co.

FOR GENOA.

Arabia s—4,125 cwts, castorseed, Volkart Brothers; 300 bales cotton, and 6 cwts rapeseed, Peel, Cassels and Co; 120 bales cotton, E Spinner and Co.

FOR CALCUTTA.

Africa s—100 bales cotton, Knoop and Co; 100 bales cotton, Arjoon Nursey; 100 bales cotton, C Pestonjee Sethna; 195 bales cotton, Ramjeedass Luchmandass; 20 bales cotton, Khetseedass Huurmukroy.

FOR NAPLES.

Arabia s—100 bales cotton, E Spinner and Co.

FOR HONGKONG.

Teheran s—331 bales cotton, David Sassoon and Co.

CALENDAR FOR OCT.—NOV., 1878.

PHASES OF THE MOON.

First Quarter..........2nd Nov., 2h. 42·0m. a.m.

Date.	Remarks.	Sun rises. A.M.	Sun sets. P.M.	High Water.	Low Water.
		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.
Th. 31	......	6 1	5 26	2 55 m 2 42 a	9 0 m 9 1 a
Nov. Fri. 1	All Saints' Day.	6 2	5 26	3 49 m 3 43 a	10 3 m 9 56 a
Sat. 2	......	6 2	5 25	4 46 m 5 0 a	11 15 m 11 4 a
Sun. 3	23th Sunday after Trinity	6 3	5 25	5 53 m 6 31 a	0 34 m ..
Mon. 4	......	6 3	5 24	7 0 m 7 52 a	0 24 m 1 44 a
Tues. 5	......	6 4	5 24	8 2 m 8 57 a	1 44 m 2 37 a
Wed 6	....	6 4	5 23	8 52 m 9 42 a	2 56 m 3 15 a

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY COLABA.

BOMBAY, 29th October 1878.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah	29·769
Temperature of the Air	82·5
Wet Bulb Thermometer	70·5
Dew Point	64·5
Relative humidity of Air	·563
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded =8).	1·8
Maximum temperature of air (read at 6 p.m.)	89·2
Minimum do. do. (read at 10 a.m.)	76·5
General Direction of Wind	NE, ENE, E, ENE, NE, NNW, NNE.
Movement of wind in 24 hours	296

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—OCTOBER 29.

LeMattee, Surg, on duty, from Bellary.
Lodwick, Lieut, 28th Foot, on leave, from Poona.
Benson, Lieut, 12th Lancers, on leave, from Secundrabad.

OCTOBER 30.

Rowland, Lieut Col, Comst Dept, on duty, from England.
Hill Col, 1st Goorkhas, on duty, from England.
Knox, Lieut, R A, on duty, from England.
Pearson, Captain, R A, on duty, from England.
Downing, Captain, R A, on duty, from England.
Adams, Lieut, R A, on duty, from England.
Wallings, Major, 1st P Infantry, on duty, from England.
Gregory, Major, 3rd Goorkhas, on duty, from England.
Owen, Major, 9th Lancers, on duty, from England.
Bruce, Lieut, 9th Lancers, on duty, from England.
Wodehouse, Lieut, R A, on duty, from England.
Badcliffe, Lieut, R A, on duty, from England.
Fordyce, Lieut, 8th Cavalry, on duty, from England.
Story, Lieut Col, 1st Goorkhas, on duty, from England.
Hay, Captain, 4th Goorkhas, on duty, from England.
Duncan, Surg Major, on duty, from England.
Watkins, Lieut, R A, on duty, from England.
Fanshaw, Lieut, R A, on duty, from England.
Hunt, Lieut Col, 5th Bombay N I, from furlough, from England.
Campbell, Captain, 1st P Cavalry, on duty, from England.
Bishop, Captain, 2nd P Cavalry, on duty, from England.
Davidson, Lieut Col, R E, on duty, from England.
Oldham, Captain, 12th Regt, on duty, from England.
Irving, Lieut, R A, on duty, from England.
Saltmarshe, R A, on duty, from England.
Murray, R A, on duty, from England.
Nutt, Capt, Pol Dept, from furlough, from England.
Harrison, Capt, Bombay N I, on duty, from England.
Gouldsbury, Lieut, 19th Bengal N I, on duty, from England.
Birch, Lieut, R A, on duty, from England.
Dawes, Lieut, 1st Cavalry to join, from England.
Nicholls, Captain, 33rd P Pioneers, on duty, from England.
Spooner, Vety. Surg, on duty, from Kirkee.
Clarke, Surg Major, on duty, from Australia.
Harrison, Lieut, 12th Bombay N I, on leave, from Poona.
Shaw, Surg, on duty, from Deolalee.

DEPARTURES.—OCTOBER 30.

Wood, 2nd Lieut, 215th Regt, on duty, from Poona.
Rowland, Lieut Col, Comst Dept, on duty, to Umballa.
Lodwick, Lieut, 28th Foot, on leave, to Ahmedabad.
Pearson, Captain, R A, on duty, from Umballa.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ORDERS.

(*Gazette of India*, October 19.)

The services of Mr Hewson, Assist Commr, Simla, are placed at the disposal of the Foreign Dept.

The services of Capt Ellis, Wing Officer and Adjt, 25th N I, who was temporarily appointed to officiate as Cant Magis of Umballa, are replaced at the disposal of the Mily Dept.

The services of Mr Maclean, of the B C S, are replaced at the disposal of the Govt of Bengal.

Mr Crosthwaite, Registrar, High Court, N W P, to officiate as Judl Commr, British Burmah, during the absence on furlough of Mr J Jardine, or until further orders.

Surg C Little, Civil Surg, Akola, to officiate as Sanitary Commr, Inspr-Genl of Dispensaries, and Supdt of Vaccination in the Hyderabad Assigned Dists.

Mr Ferrars, Depy Convr of Forests and Offg Dtr of Public Instruction, British Burmah, to be Inspr of Schools in that Province.

Mr Hodson, Inspr of Schools, 1st Circle, Mysore, to officiate as Inspr of Schools, British Burmah.

The services of the Rev J W Adams, of the Bengal Ecclesiastical Estab, are placed at the disposal of the Mily Dept for duty with the troops ordered on service in Northern India.

The services of the Rev C Swinnerton, of the Bengal Ecclesiastical Estab, are placed at the disposal of the Mily Dept for duty with the troops ordered on service in Northern India.

The services of Mr G P Sanderson, late Supdt of the Kheddah Estab, Mysore, are placed at the disposal of the Mily Dept.

In supersession of Foreign Dept Notification, dated 25th, July, Capt J R Watson, Wing Officer, 16th, Regt, Bombay N I, is appointed to officiate temporarily as Political Assist, 2nd Class, and Cant Magis of Nusseerabad, from the afternoon of 12th May 1878.

Capt W Loch, Aide-de-Camp to H E the Viceroy and Govr-Genl, is appointed to officiate as Principal of the Mayo College at Ajmere.

Major St John, Principal of the Mago College at Ajmere, is placed on special duty with the Agent to the Govr-Genl for Beluchistan, from the date on which Capt Loch may assume charge of his duties.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

The undermentioned Officer is admitted to the B S C, Lt Barclay, 44th Foot Offg Wing Officer, 45th Regt N I.

Lieut-Col Fagan, Bombay Infy, is promoted to the rank of Col by Bt. from 1st Oct.

Lieut E B Standbridge, R A, to be an Assist Supdt of Factories, vice Lieut J Bent, deceased.

The undermentioned Officers, who were appointed on probation, as Sub-Assist Commissaries-Genl, 3rd Class, by the G G Orders noted against their respective names, having passed the prescribed department l tests, are permanently attached to the Commt D pt:—Lieut G Wingate, B S C, Lieut M R Spence, B S C, and Lieut T L Lewis, B S C.

Surg-Major Jameson to officiate with temporary rank as Depy Surg-Genl, British Medical Service, Peshawar Circle.

Surg-Major Lundy to officiate with temporary rank as Depy Surg Genl, British Medical Service, Allahabad Circle.

That portion of G G O, No. 370 of 1878, appointing Lieut Vaughan, R A, to officiate as Comdt, No 5 Garrison Battery, Punjab Frontier Force, is cancelled.

Capt Stevens, B S C, Wing Comdr, 13th N I, is allowed furlough out of India, on private affairs, for 1 year, 1 month and 9 days.

The services of Lieut-Col Bartleman, Bengal Infy, are replaced at the disposal of H E the C-in-C.

The services of Surg-Maj Currie, Medical Officer, 10th Bengal Lancers are replaced at the disposal of H E the C-in-C.

The services of Capt Molloy, B S C, Wing Officer and Adjt, 5th Goorkha Regt, Punjab Frontier Force, are placed temporarily at the disposal of H E the C in C.

The services of Capt Loch, Genl List, Infy, Sqdn Commdr, 19th Bengal Lancers, Aide-de-Camp to H E the Viceroy, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Foreign Dept.

Mr Scotland, Asst Engr, is re-transferred from Madras Famine Relief Works to Bengal Irrigation Branch.

The undermentioned Officers whose services were temporarily placed at the disposal of the Govt of the N W P and Oudh, are re-transferred to the Western System of State Railways:—Capt T Gracey, R E, Exect Engr.; Mr T E Curry, Assist Engr, temporary rank.

Lieut-Col Stanton, R E, Offg Dtr of State Railways, North Eastern System, and Offg Jt Secy to the Govt of Bengal, is granted privilege leave for 3 months.

Major Lindsay, RE, Engr-in-Chief, Northern Bengal Railway, is appointed to officiate as Dtr of State Railways, North-Eastern System, and Jt Secy to the Govt of Bengal, P W D Railway Branch.

Mr Carter, Exect Engr, Northern Bengal Railway, is appointed to officiate as Engr-in-Chief of that Railway.

Mr Quinlan, Depy Examr of Accts Rangoon and Irrawaddie Valley State Railways, is granted 3 months' privilege leave.

Mr Johnson, Depy Examr of Guaranteed Railway Accts Bombay, is transferred to Bristish Burmah, and will officiate as Depy Examr of Accts, Rangoon and Irrawaddie Valley State Rayilway, during the absence of Mr Quinlan on privilege leave, or until further orders.

Mr Gray, Assist Examr, Guaranteed Rayilway Acct, Lahore, and Actg Depy Examr, Punjab Northern State Railway, is transferred to Bombay as Assist Examr of Guaranteed Railway Accts Bombay during the absence of Mr Johnson, or until further orders.

The services of Capt Doyle, Barrack Master, Allahabad, are placed at the disposal of the Mily Dept.

The following Accts are re-transferred from Madras Famine Relief Works to the Office and Province specified:—Mr W South, Acctt, to the office of the Examr, Guaranteed Railway Accts, Bombay. Mr T Davis, Acctt to N W P and Oudh.

THE NAVY.

Admiralty, 8th October, 1878.

Engineer J. V. B. Thompson has been placed on the Retired List.

Engineer John Jefferies has been promoted to the rank of Chief Engineer.

Assistant-Engineer A. S. Barter has been placed on the Retired List of his rank.

THE INDIAN ARMY.

India Office, 11th October, 1878.

Her Majesty has been pleased to approve of the following Promotions among the Officers of the Staff Corps and Indian Military Forces, made by the Governments in India:—

BREVET.

To be Lieutenant-Colonels.

Major Stewart, Madras Cavalry, in succession to General Story, C. B., Bengal Cavalry, removed to the Retired List, 22nd Dec, 1877.

Major Low, Bengal Cavalry, in succession to Lieut-General Sir A. T. Wilde, K. C. B., C. S. I., Madras Staff Corps, deceased, 8th Feb. 1878.

To be Majors.

Captain Halliday, Bengal Cavalry, in succession to Lieut-General Barrow, C.B., Madras Staff Corps, deceased, 2nd Oct. 1877.

Captain Beckett, Bengal Infantry, in succession to Major-General Miller, Madras Staff Corps, deceased, 11th Oct. 1877.

Captain Quin, Bengal Infantry, in succession to Major-General Hervey, Madras Infantry, deceased, 28th October, 1877.

Captain Parker, Bengal Infantry, in succession to General Story, C.B., Bengal Cavalry, removed to the Retired List, 22nd Dec. 1877.

Captain Hodgson, Bengal Infantry, in succession to Major-General Beale, Bombay Infantry, deceased, 1st January. 1878.

Captain Hamilton, Bengal Infantry (since deceased), in succession to Lieut-General Sir A. T. Wilde, K.C.B., C.S.I, Madras Staff Corps, deceased, 8th Feb.

Captain Mayne, Bombay Cavalry, 21st July 1878.

SUBSTANTIVE PROMOTIONS.

MADRAS STAFF CORPS.

To be Lieutenant-Colonel, Major Joseph Stuart, 20th July, 1878.

To be Majors—Captain Hoskins, 20th July 1878; Captain Hudleston, 4th August, 1878.

To be Captain,—Lieut Carter, 3rd Aug 1878.

MADRAS ARMY.

Late 5th Light Cavalry.

To be Major.—Captain (Brevet Major) Chalon, 25th June, 1878.

BOMBAY STAFF CORPS.

To be Lieutenant-Colonel,—Major Crispin, 20th July, 1878.

To be Major.—Captain (Brevet Lieut-Colonel) Beville, 27th June, 1878.

To be Captains,—Lieut Smith, 26th June, 1878. Lieut Sealy, 17th July, 1878.

In the *London Gazette* of the 9th July, 1878, the dates of promotion and alteration of rank, in succession to the Colonels promoted in the *London Gazette* of the 15th Feb. 1878, should have been given as 1st Oct. 1877, and not 1st October, 1878.

The names of the undermentioned Officers, promoted in that *Gazette* to the rank of Major, should have been given as follows:—Captain Henry Attenborow Yates, Madras Cavalry. Captain Francis Munro Newbery, Bengal Infantry. Captain Adam Wilson Graham should have been described as of the Bengal Infantry.

Her Majesty has been pleased to approve of the following admissions to Her Majesty's Indian Staff Corps made by the Governments in India:—

BENGAL STAFF CORPS.

To be Lieutenants—Lieut Montanaro, 70th Foot, 14th Oct 1871. Lieut Mealy, 67th Foot, 12th Feb 1873. Lieut Deane, 54th Foot, 28th Feb 1874. Lieut Massy, 9th Foot, 28th Feb 1874. Lieut Porter, 8th Foot, 11th Feb 1875. Lieut Montgomery, 83rd Foot, 13th June 1875.

MADRAS STAFF CORPS.

To be Lieutenant—Lieut Simpson, 109th Foot, 13th Oct, 1864.

BOMBAY STAFF CORPS.

To be Lieutenants—Lieut Monteith, 72nd Foot, 9th Aug 1873. Lieut Mahon, 34th Foot, 21st Sep 1874.

The date of rank of the undermentioned Officers admitted to the Indian Staff Corps should be as follows, and not as stated in the *London Gazette* of 20th Aug 1878.

BENGAL STAFF CORPS.

Lieut Browne, 54th Foot, 28th Oct 1871.
Lieut Welchman, 48th Foot, 28th Oct 1871.
Lieut Fulton, 1st Battalion, 2nd Foot, 17th Feb 1872.
Lieut Jones, 70th Foot, 28th Feb 1874.
Lieut Ryland, 1st Battalion 11th Foot, 28th Feb 1874.

MADRAS STAFF CORPS.

Lieut Simpson, 18th Hussars, 28th *October* 1871, and not 28th *August* 1871, as stated in the *Gazette* of the 26th Oct 1877.

POSTAL NOTICES.

DEPARTURE OF OCEAN MAILS.

	Date.	Mail closes.	After packet.
United Kingdom	Nov. 4	5-30 P.M.	...
Kurrachee	Oct. 31	8-0 A.M.	9-0 A.M.
Persian Gulf via Kurrachee	,, 31	1-0 P.M.	2-0 P.M.
China	Nov. 12	5-0 P.M.	5-30 P.M.
Australia	,, 8	[illegible] P.M.	4-15 P.M.
Mauritius and Reunion	,, 21	5-30 P.M.	...
Zanzibar, &c.	,, 21	5-30 P.M.	...

OVERLAND MAIL.

The following is the revised list of the hours for closing the Overland packets:—

Letters will be received at the General Post Office up to 5-30 p.m.

Newspapers, Books, and Patterns up to 4 p.m.

Registered Letters up to 3 p.m.

Registered Letters, if fully prepaid, together with an extra fee of two annas, will be received at the General Post Office between 3 and 4 p.m.

Late Letters, if fully pre-paid by means of stamps in respect both of postage and of the *late letter fee* (two annas each), will be received at the Wellington Pier Post Office from 5-30 to 6-30 p.m.

The latest hour for posting ordinary Overland covers at the several Branch Post Offices will be 4 p.m., and registered letters at 2 p.m.

Fully prepaid letters will be received on board the Overland Mail Steamer after 6 p.m. and up to starting time (7 p.m). by the payment of an additional fee of four annas. All others will be refused.

POSTAGE BY THE BRINDISI ROUTE.

The Postage rates chargeable on Correspondence forwarded via Brindisi, to the United Kingdom, or Union countries served through the United Kingdom, are as follows:—

For the United Kingdom.

Each Letter per ½ ounce—annas 6.
Each Newspaper per 4 ounces—annas 2.
Each Pattern Packet or Printed Papers, per two ounces, 2½ annas.

Covers not marked for any particular route will, as a general rule, be sent by the route which stands first on the Schedule except where there is quicker despatch by some other route or where the first route may require the compulsory prepayment of a higher rate of postage than has been prepaid or where the amount of postage paid may leave no doubt as to the route intended.

The postage chargeable per ½ oz. on letters sent to the Union countries mentioned below is as follows:—

Germany, Austria, Hungary, Belgium, Denmark, Egypt, Spain, United States of America, France, Greece, Italy, Luxemburg, Norway, Portugal, Roumania, Turkey, Russia, Servia, Sweden, Switzerland ...... As. 5

NOTICE.
IN ANSWER TO NUMEROUS ENQUIRIES
MESSRS. DAVIS,
SURGEON DENTISTS,
Have returned to Bombay and may be consulted at Rampart Row.

SURGEON DENTIST,
DR. C. F. KHORY,
LICENTIATE OF DENTAL SURGERY OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND),
No. 23, RAMPART ROW,
Opposite the Floral Fountain.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

BOMBAY.

BIRTHS.

HAWKINS—October 30th, at Parel, the wife of C. R. Hawkins, of a son.

NOLAN—October 30th, at Bombay, the wife of Mr. Patrick Nolan, H. M.'s Customs, of a daughter.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

CHAPMAN—October 19th, at Masulipatam, the wife of J. S. Chapman, of a daughter.

DEASE—October 24th, at Pertabgurh, Oudh, the wife of R. Dease, District Engineer, of a son.

RUNDALL—October 20th, at Kherwarrah, the wife of Lieut F. M. Rundall, Adjutant, Meywar Bheel Corps, of a son.

STUDD—October 20th, at Mozufferpore, Tirhoot, the wife of E. J. C. Studd, Esq., of a son.

WINCKLER—October 20th, at Waltair, the wife of Edwin Winckler, Vizagapatam, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HEDGER—ELDRIDGE—October 26th, at the Cathedral, by the Rev. B. T. Atlay, Chaplain, Philip Francis Frushard Hedger, of Calcutta, Solicitor, to Georgina Harriet, eldest daughter of John Smith Eldridge, Esq., of Southampton and Marchwood.

DEATHS.

MACDONALD—October 23rd, at Palaveram, Captain J M Macdonald, Commandant European Artillery, Veteran Company

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1878.

THE patriotic appeal made by the *Times* to all Englishmen to forget party differences for the moment and unite in supporting Her Majesty's Government might have a very good chance of being listened to, if anyone could form the faintest notion what the policy is that Her Majesty's Government wishes the nation to carry into effect. But even those unreflecting admirers of Lord Beaconsfield who shouted themselves hoarse with delight when their hero brought home from the Berlin Conference his claptrap phrase—"Peace with "Honour,"—and nothing more, must now blush with shame at the recollection of their own credulity; and it is not at all likely that they will allow themselves to be caught twice in the same trap. Englishmen have no guarantee that the Ministry will not, after much beating of drums and many flourishes of trumpets, quietly come to an "under-"standing" with the enemy, and congratulate the country on having secured "Peace with "honour" again. A free people cannot be expected to give their confidence to men who have deceived them once, unless the political creed of the Government is fully and frankly explained to them beforehand, and a distinct assurance given that it shall not be swerved from. There is plently of patriotism left in Englishmen; what the country is really in sore need of is a great statesman who is not afraid to take the people of England into council and to tell them why they should accept him as their leader. The Tory Ministry has wrecked its popularity by its want of straightforwardness and contempt for the national feeling of self-respect. Lord Beaconsfield himself cannot be supposed to have a very high opinion of the wisdom of a people, in spite of whose prejudices he has risen to the supreme position in the State and is now able to trample on the necks of all his enemies; while Lord Salisbury, the most stubborn and insolent of aristocrats, has an absolute hatred of free institutions and despises the democracy which a great English leader would convert into the most powerful political force the world has yet known. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that the Beaconsfield Administration has distinguished itself by a reticence in regard to public affairs which the English people feel and resent most keenly. During the Russo-Turkish war, the Ministers never spoke out; and now again, when the Empire ought already to be at war with Russia, nobody in England or in India outside the Cabinet and the Viceroy's Council can understand what the Government means to do. The opinions of the English Press on the Afghan question are a curious study. After disembowelling the Gazetteers, the writers of the leading articles seem to have nothing to do but elaborate the most wearisome inanities. We do not contend, as some of our contemporaries do, that all details of military movements should be communicated to the newspapers before any warlike operations are undertaken; on the contrary, we should applaud any precautions that might be taken to keep such news from leaking out. But, with regard to the policy of the Government, it seems to us that Lord Beaconsfield makes a fatal mistake in treating the free English people with an arrogance far surpassing that of a Continental Emperor for his subjects. The Ministers are trying, apparently, to feel the public pulse by means of articles in the newspapers; but *The Times* now has lost its old influence, and any appeal it makes will only give the signal for an endless babble of discordant counsels. When will English public men begin to understand that the leadership of the nation will be gladly given to that statesman who has the courage to make known personally his own convictions, and to rally to his side the patriotic instincts of the nation? Mr. Gladstone is so strong, though his opinions are very unpopular, because he is not afraid of the people; while Lord Beaconsfield's statecraft is always compounded largely of secrecy and intrigue. If the Ministry would even now take a decided line in their controversy with Russia as to Central Asian affairs and the execution of the Berlin Treaty, they would have no reason to complain of a lack of popular enthusiasm at home; and—let us whisper it in their ears—there can be no doubt that they might now, by going to war with Russia, convert the Amir of Kabul at once from an enemy into a friend, for Shere Ali's main grievance is that England deserted the Sultan last year, whereas, if they order the Indian Army to invade Afghanistan and leave Russia to work her own will in Turkey, they will have to fight the Afghans first and the Russians afterwards. But how can the English nation be blamed for not supporting a Ministry which does not know its own mind, and which passes its time in making the most formidable and costly warlike preparations that somehow or other always seem to end in nothing?

EVEN our native readers will understand what a college founded in honour of the "Iron Duke" might have been. Though he could stand in the Eton playing fields, and own that school as the nursery of his officers—"it was here I won Waterloo"—he would have been horrified at what is, we fear, the true state of modern Eton. Luxury and gourmandism, idleness and unpunctuality, in boys as much as in men, would have infallibly disgusted the Duke of Wellington. We have seen, indeed, an autograph letter of his scarcely showing any pity for those officers who were the victims of the Calcutta failures of 1827-28. Their misfortunes were due to their desire to obtain more than a fair rate of interest for their money, when less would have sufficed for men of more moderate tastes. The very room in which he died was bare of all but necessary furniture. Having then the Duke's own simple life before them, the founders of Wellington College knew what to aim at. The "founders" were the representatives of the contributors to the national subscription of £165,000 (though part of that sum was promised or paid before the memorial had taken its subsequent shape), and their original intention was "the gratuitous, or nearly gratuitous, education of orphan children of officers of the army," which plan was stereotyped by the Royal Charter of 1853. As a "subsidiary "object" of the institution, the admission of officers' sons, not orphans, was afterwards sanctioned at a rate, according to the first idea, of £30 per annum. They were to be in no way a charge on the foundation, and to them was furthermore added a third class of civilians' sons paying the market value of the education. The limit for the first class (that of the foundationers) was originally 60 boys, who were to be educated for £10, £15, or £20, according to their circumstances. This number has since been extended to 80 orphans, who now pay nothing. The rate named above for the living officers' sons was found before the opening of the college to be based on a miscalculation of the necessary cost—strange, but obvious—and it was first raised to £70, and then to £80. The third class first paid £100, afterwards £110, and they were admitted with a view to increasing the funds of the foundation, and improving the education to be given; in fact, to make the place not a charity orphanage, but a college where a liberal education would be given amid the associations and traditions of a first class English public school.

As regards the foundationers proper more than was promised has been done. The sum collected, *plus* interest (£20,000) for about five years before building began, but *minus* the expense of collection, really amounted to £175,000, of which £85,000 being spent in buildings, £90,000 was so invested as to bring in about £4,200 a year—or about £50 for each of the 80 foundationers. Since then £50,000 has been earned by the college, all of which, and a little more, has been spent on improvements, chiefly bricks and mortar (the Lancet Commissioner who visited all the public schools some years back was loud in his praises of Wellington). Now if the annual cost of a boy at the other schools quoted in the recent correspondence between the governors of the college and the Adjutant-General at the Horse Guards be £68 and £89 respectively, it is quite plain that, without some source of extra profit, the foundation would soon have been bankrupt, and the most illogical of illogical anteroom orators will do well to pause before finding fault with the governors for having bled civilians to support their foundation, which really represents, to the managers an annual deficit of about £2,400. The second class at £80 fairly pay their way—nothing more, and if the governors had filled their 300 beds with foundationers and boys of this class, they would still have been losers. They therefore declined to take more than 80 officers' sons at cost price, and admitted civilians' (or officers') sons to the number of 140, clearing by them about £6,000, or £7,000 yearly; or say a profit on the whole concern of about £4,000. It was some years before they got their full number of 140, and the result up to the present time has been the profit of £50,000 alluded to above, which sum has been spent on improvements calculated to keep the college on a level with other English first rate schools. Chapel, libraries, rooms for an increased staff of masters, and, last not least, an admirable lecture theatre and laboratory have been added, and the latest demands of modern domestic sanitation have been attended to. It is quite true that the governors might have gone on another tack, and taken fewer foundationers—say fifty—and an unlimited number of officers' sons at cost price. But the education would have been different, and the school at best a narrow caste school; and the nation relying on the Prince Consort's supervision of the rising school, and on a body of governors nearly half of whom had been soldiers, assented to what was being done. Even the rates charged did not allow for such salaries, or would induce good masters to stay long at the college, but the governors could not do more. They were, however, besieged by applicants for admission at the civilian rate, and though, mindful of a possible rainy day, they did not enlarge the place with borrowed funds, they conceived that a few senior masters might be content to build at their own risk; and thus two or three boarding-houses have sprung up where the charges are £135. That not more than 80 officers' sons have been taken at the £80 rate has been a great source of dissatisfaction to the service, and we think it might fairly be stipulated that *pro-rata* this class should increase proportionately to that of the civilians—say at the rate of 20 eighty pounders to 100 at £110 or to £135. The officers' advocate was sadly muddled when he implied in the fifth and sixth paras of his first letter that officers' sons compete with civilians' for admission at £80. This, we have reason to know, has never been the case. Officers' sons get in at £80 by seniority on the list of candidates, or by passing a brilliant entrance examination. There they have the same questions as civilians' boys, and like them have to qualify, without competition, for entrance to the college, and their answers serve as an indication of the place they are to take in the school. But it has been thought good policy at each examination to let in at £80 a few officers' sons, whether entitled to enter by seniority or not, if they exhibit decided talent for their age. The college thus catches up the best fish that come to its net, and casts away but few; for many officers pay £110 pending the arrival of a boy's turn for the list at £80—being, in fact, fined £30 for not putting their boys' names on the list in good time.

As for luxury, it is after all a relative question. About sixteen years ago there were complaints in the *Times* that boys at Wellington were starved. Now it is all the other way. Most schools—Marlborough excepted—give meat for breakfast, while on the Britannia, cadet ship, it is given thrice daily. All schools are now luxurious compared with those of our fathers. So is modern life. Perhaps the complaints against the luxury of Wellington College may be taken as one sign of a reaction in the army against luxury, and *tant mieux*; their imitators, the *jeunesse dorée* of London, will, as usual, take their tone from them. But in this particular question it will be well for officers to be sure that they are not trying to purchase—as at their co-operative stores—a five shilling article for half a crown. Calmly considering the case from an impartial standpoint, we think that, if the abovenamed concession as to the proportion of officers' sons at £80 were granted by the governors, the case against them would fall to the ground.

The *Saturday Review* made one point which the other papers have missed. Foundationers may no doubt be led into expensive tastes by associating with sons of rich civilians more closely than is the case at Eton and Winchester, where collegers and oppidans live in separate buildings and are in various ways separated by a wide gulf. It is the peculiar feature of Wellington that no such class distinctions, which are naturally repugnant to boys' minds, exist there; the very fact of a boy's being on the foundation is unknown unless he chooses to reveal it, and perhaps on the whole the positive advantage of this may counterbalance the risk which the *Saturday* fears. It is hardly credible, however, that parents not unfrequently send boys of 15 back to school with £5 in their pockets; something would be gained by the correspondence if this were stopped. The tone of the letters on both sides is to be regretted. The Adjutant-General made some charges which were disproved at once, to the detriment of his whole case; Colonel Talbot (son-in-law of the late Earl of Derby who was President of the College) is unnecessarily bitter and sarcastic, especially at the close of the correspondence.

ARRIVAL OF THE OVERLAND MAIL OF THE 11TH OCTOBER.

THE P. and O. S. N. Company's s.s. Bangalore, Commander E. G. Stead, arrived in harbour at 6 o'clock yesterday morning with the English Mails of Oct. 11th. The following is the list of passengers:—

FROM SOUTHAMPTON.

Mr and Mrs W Taylor
Miss Lamb
Mr Sturmer
Mrs F J Walker
Mr and Mrs C H Spitta
Captain C U Morant
Lieutenant J C Dawes
Rev H M Midwinter
Mr J S Heyman
Mr A Maclean
Mrs Thompson
Mrs Sanderson and infant
Mrs Eliot
Mr G March
Mr H Martin
Miss Hawkes
Hon Justice Spankie
Miss Spankie
Mr Eduljee Shapurjee
Mrs Lyle and infant.

FROM VENICE.

Capt J E Campbell
Mr Tidy
Mrs Tidy and child
Miss H M Browne
Mrs A G Mayne
Miss Bayley
Mr R Bachmann
Lieut Col Davidson
Mr W Duncan
Miss Ewart
Mr and Mrs T Conlan
Mrs Burgess
Mr and Mrs A O'Meara
Col and Mrs Hunt
Mr and Mrs K Murray and child
Miss Waters
Mr H W Lewis
Rev H P Parker
Mr A Siemann
Mr A J Ker
Capt and Mrs Nutt
Capt and Mrs March
Hon C A and Mrs Turner
Mr S Large

FROM BRINDISI.

Mr Hudson
Mr E Griffiths.
Lieut Col Critchley
Col Warren
Mr and Mrs Pigott
Mr C Sharpe
Mr P Robinson
Mr and Mrs Fuchs
Mr and Mrs Mengens
Major Gregory
Mr G H Bayley
Mr G Thomas
Mr C W Power
Mr P Donaldson
Mr Gill
Lieut G Adams
Lieut Wodehouse
Lieut O Radcliffe
Lieut R Bruce
Lieut E A Fanshawe
Lieut T H Birch
Lieut C B Watkins
Lieut Murray
Lieut B Irving
Capt J Hay
Lt-Col H Rowland
Capt E M Downing
Col R J Hill
Lieut J F Fordyce
Lieut P Gouldsbury
Lieut Saltmarshe
Major A Valling
Lt Col P Story
Capt W C Harrison
Capt T Nicholls
Lieut Knox
Major A G Owen
Capt A Oldham
Capt L R Campbell
Col T Baker
Capt Bishop
Capt Pearson
Mrs Oldham and 2 children
Mr Y Smith
Mr J W Smyth
Mr H A Smith
Mr C Macaulay
Capt Lehalle

On October 29, at 4 p.m, signalled the ship Dragon, 118 miles W.S.W. of Bombay, bound to this port.

ENGLISH COMMERCIAL LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, OCT. 11.

THE Board of Trade returns issued this week do not yet show the least prospect of improvement. The exports in September have again fallen off, the declared value being £16,561,382 last month, against £17,117,426 in September 1877, and £17,777,917 in September 1876. The totals for the nine months of the year were: £151,035,447; £147,685,519; and £144,926,177—in 1876, 1877, and 1878, respectively. The distinguishing feature of the return is not so much a heavy decrease (for the differences are in no case serious) as the universality of the falling off, scarcely an exception to this being noticeable beyond the articles of cotton and woollen yarns, silk manufactures, and machinery. Moreover, the decrease is *upon* a decrease, or rather series of decreases, which is a most discouraging characteristic. For at least four years the goods exported have been steadily falling in value, and yet the decrease in quantity goes on, while all the time we hear that our neighbours, although they too complain, are expanding their manufacturing enterprises in all directions. Cotton yarns, as has just been stated, are among the few articles that have improved, but piece goods show a falling off. The total export of yarn last month was 19,618,800 lbs., against 17,932,300 lbs. in September 1877, and 20,304,000 lbs. in September 1876; the proportion to Bombay being 331,960 lbs., against 841,200 lbs., and 653,900 lbs. The quantity of piece goods exported was 325,945,700 yards last month, against 329,431,300 yards, and 332,985,000 yards in the corresponding period of 1877 and 1876; the proportion to Bombay being 33,210,200 yards last month, against 36,282,000 yards, and 36,922,100 yards in the corresponding month of the two preceding years. In fact the only redeeming feature of the export of cottons (India generally showing a heavy decline) is the great expansion in the trade with despised Turkey. The Ottoman Empire may be everything that is bad, but it is a capital customer of Manchester. The export of yarn to Turkey last month was more than threefold what it had been in either of the two previous years, while the total for the nine months was 19,253,100 lbs. against only 7,815,860 lbs. in 1877 and 9,741,800 lbs. in 1876. Piece goods increased 50 per cent. last month, while for the nine months the total was 242,949,800 yards, against 171,567,400 yards in 1877, and 193,976,700 yards in 1876.

Turning to the imports, the value for the month was £27,229,591 against £28,234,769 in September 1877 and £30,668,254 in September 1876. Cotton has declined, and the total from British India was only 173,767 cwts. against 288,773 cwts. in September 1877. As for wheat, the sudden decrease in the supplies from India is now more marked than ever, only 74,447 cwts. having been entered last month against 578,867 cwts. in September 1877. Indian merchants are losing nothing by being unable to export grain this year, for it must come to a wretchedly bad market. Wheat is now only 40s. a quarter, and bids fair to go still lower under the press of enormous supplies from America.

The City of Glasgow Bank failure has been of course the great topic of the week, and it does not lose in interest by the lapse of time; quite the contrary. Very few failures, comparatively speaking, have followed that of Smith, Fleming and Co., and I give a full list of them below. But the sensation excited has taken a direction which does not require fresh suspensions to keep up the interest. It is now openly stated that the conduct of the Bank directors has been quite enough to justify a criminal prosecution. They did worse things than merely fill their own and their friends' pockets with borrowed money; they must have presented false balance sheets for years to justify the declaration of dividends of 11 and 12 per cent; and, what is more, it is now openly stated that they signed certificates in accordance with the statute declaring that they held gold against the free note issue when they in reality had nothing of the kind. Nor is even this all. The *Glasgow Herald* states that large amounts of bills were sent to the Bank for collection from England and other places, the proceeds of which were applied to the Bank's use, and that a criminal prosecution for embezzlement is threatened. If that is true the manager or directors, or whoever is responsible, must have sunk to a very low pass indeed. This, however, if there is anything in it, will come out by and bye. What we have now mainly to talk about is the nature of the business done which caused the crash. It must have been reckless and wicked beyond all precedent, consisting of advances to firms which were notoriously rotten, and to others who, if not absolutely rotten, could yet offer nothing in the way of security which was easily realisable. Morton, for instance, who figures as a debtor of the Bank to the amount of two millions sterling, shows a surplus on his estate and has not stopped payment, but of what does the surplus consist? Of land in New Zealand which cannot possibly be turned into money for years; and of course if the liquidators of the City of Glasgow Bank pressed for immediate payment of even a tenth part of the nominal debt, they would at once make the debtor bankrupt. For all the good that this man's estate is to do to the Bank it might as well be in the moon. Meanwhile, and pending such realisations, the debts of the Bank itself are pressing and must be met. Eight millions are due to depositors and three millions more on direct acceptances, besides endorsements of a million or two. In fact I am told the liabilities will be fourteen millions in all, and the immediate assets almost *nil*; accordingly at the meeting which will be held in a fortnight to receive the report of the accountants a heavy call will have to be made on the 1,200 shareholders. But of these 400 will not be able to pay anything, and the others will therefore have to provide all the more.

So far the only failures I have to record are the following:—Potter, Wilson and Co., Australian merchants, Glasgow, liabilities £600,000 (Mr. Lewis Potter was a director of the City of Glasgow, and is supposed to have borrowed £160,000 on his own hook); W. Simons and Co., shipbuilders, Renfrew; Colin H. Dunlop and Co., thread and sewing cotton manufacturers, Glasgow; Thomas Bowman and Son, sewed muslin manufacturers. Next, a notice has been issued announcing the retirement of John Innes Wright and William Scott from the firms of John Innes Wright and Co., commission merchants, Glasgow, and William Scott and Co., merchants, Rangoon. Both these gentlemen were directors and also large debtors of the failed Bank.

Rumour, however, went far beyond the suspension of mere mercantile firms, and on Wednesday was busied with the name of a Scotch Bank much more important than the City of Glasgow. I cannot believe the reports on this head are likely to prove true, although I am told the Bank in question has done a good deal of bad business in Glasgow, if not in Edinburgh. But it is so powerful and firmly rooted, is in every way so distinguished, and has such an exceptionally opulent proprietary, that I shall never believe, until I see it, that the other banks would allow it to go. Its fall would bring a run upon the whole of them which they might have much difficulty in meeting and then it would be a case of chaos come again. Besides this report there was also a good deal of talk about an East India house in London, whose suspension would make even a greater noise in your part of the world than that of Smith, Fleming and Co. An experienced City man, who has excellent means of judging, told me that he had the greatest doubts of the possibility of such a disaster happening, because the firm in question had so few acceptances out. I hope this estimate will prove true.

Before leaving these failures I should perhaps add, that I hear in most quarters a very kindly feeling expressed towards Mr. John Fleming, of Smith, Fleming and Co. You hear more than one rich City man say that, if Mr. Fleming had come to him the day before his firm failed and had asked for a cash loan of £20,000, he would have got it at once, simply on his personal engagement. Mr. Fleming gets the credit of having really wanted to stop four or five years since when the firm of Nicol, Duckworth and Co., of Liverpool went into liquidation, but of having been over-persuaded to continue going on by the City of Glasgow Bank. I cannot of course vouch for the truth of this, but I perfectly well remember that when Nicol, Duckworth and Co. wound up there were reports adverse to the stability of Smith, Fleming and Co., one of whose partners went round to the City offices of the various morning papers to contradict the rumours explicitly. I am told that there is every disposition here to continue the agency of the British India Steam Navigtsion Company in the hands of the firm.

The failure of the City of Glasgow Bank has of course brought up two subjects for discussion, one being the evil of unlimited liability, and the other the mischief done by the system of paying interest on deposits. They are obviously connected, however, for it is quite certain that depositors would not entrust so much money to the leading banks if the shareholders were not individually liable in every penny of their means. Here, then, is the *catena*, or chain of connections. Unlimited liability attracts deposits; deposits bear interest, and therefore must be all employed at a higher interest; hence risky business, the dissipation of the deposits, here, there and everywhere, inflated and unsounded trade, a crash—and then we come back to the point from which we started, the liability of the shareholders to make all these claims good. Leading City men have told me that they would not hold a share in an unlimited liability bank, whether they were directors or not, because they could never feel sure that their fortune was their own. For my part I believe that on grounds of general security the big banks will now take less trouble to attract deposits; for instance, they will offer less interest; but nothing more will come of the agitation against unlimited liability. It cannot be expected that the present leading joint stock banks will alter their constitution, for the mere proposal would excite distrust. No more unlimited banks will be started, but to that point we had come even before the present scare.

Unless, however, English trade speedily improve, we shall have little need to concern ourselves about the growth of banking deposits; they will too surely fall off of themselves. Things are excessively gloomy at all industrial centres, and instead of holding out any prospect of amelioration bid fair now to get worse and worse, for the first and most general consequence of the City of Glasgow failure is, that all banks are "taking in sail," reducing the accommodation they give as much as possible, and calling in outlying debts. This would have been trying enough even if trade had been good; in actual circumstances and applied to firms, many of whom have difficulty enough in keeping their feet, the treatment is the very thing to make matters worse by multiplying the failures and so intensifying the distrust. There are houses which can show a solvent balance sheet and yet require means to carry on, and if they were to stop payment the public would at once begin to ask in dismay, who, then, is solvent? Trade *might* expand, however fierce the competition, but it cannot possibly expand if to all its other embarrassments is added a refusal of necessary advances. Accordingly in certain districts, such as the Durham and South Wales iron region, and in Lancashire, a slight revival of business which had begun to be apparent is already checked, and the check is highly likely to continue. No improvement, it is now plain, can be looked for this year.

Egyptian matters have now advanced another stage towards final settlement, the "susceptibilities" of the French, which have given a good deal of trouble since the acceptance by Mr. Rivers Wilson of the post of Finance Minister, having now been almost completely allayed. Mr. Wilson has been in Paris all this week, and has had interviews with M. Waddington, Mr. Goschen, and the Rothschilds mainly about the definition of the powers to be conferred on the new Minister of Public Works, who is a Frenchman. The French want this gentleman to have control not only over the railways and the port of Alexandria, but over the public domains; but to this last Mr. Rivers Wilson, fearing expenditure and ultimate jobbery, objects. I believe he has given up the railways, and that the other points will be compromised. Of one thing, however, there is no doubt. The interest on the Unified Debt will be paid in full on the 1st November. It may be necessary to borrow half a million or even more, but steps have already been taken to make this safe, whether the Rothschilds undertake a new loan or not.

There was no allotment of Council Bills on Wednesday because the tenders were insufficient in amount and the price was too low, very little being tendered even at 1s. 7½d. A similar amount, £400,000, is to be offered next Wednesday, but it is by no means clear that the Indian banks will tender for much then. They have no wish at present to remit money from this side; they prefer keeping their funds well in hand here against contingencies. Silver is very flat, although there is next to nothing doing to test prices. The only thing which I know of in favour of this metal is, that it is coming much more into circulation in Austria, where it is gradually supplanting the paper currency. In a recent letter I mentioned that a considerable amount of the German demonetised coin had found an outlet in Austria, and this had the good effect of enabling the German Government to relieve its hands of part of the superabundant stock without being obliged to still further depress the market here by sales.

All the banks, discount, and credit institutions, and leading firms have been quietly strengthening themselves during the last few days. The Bank of England weekly return yesterday showed an addition of above four millions to the private deposits in the one week; an unprecedented amount. This simply represents the swelling of so many balances to the credit of the various firms and institutions. Among these the Scotch banks have not been backward in their measures of protection. A million sterling of gold went north to them during the week ending on Wednesday evening, and £800,000 more went to day. They must be very strong now, but they need it all.

PROSECUTION OF A PERMANENT WAY INSPECTOR.

JOHN STEWART, a permanent way inspector on the G. I. P. Railway, was brought up before Mr. Williams, Assistant Commissioner, Hurda, Central Provinces, on the 28th inst, and charged with a negligent act calculated to endanger the public safety. On the 8th inst., as a goods train was coming to Hurda from Timoornee, the accused had a rail out, which the driver could not see until he got close upon the spot owing to a sharp curve. The result was, that before the train could be stopped, the engine and five waggons had gone down a bank. The engine turned right on its side, and five waggons were completely smashed. At the preliminary enquiry, Stewart admitted that he had not acted up to the rules which require that he should have men out on the watch for coming trains, but he could advance no reason for this neglect. He pleaded guilty to the charge, and called evidence of previous good character in mitigation of punishment. The magistrate sentenced him to three months' simple imprisonment and Rs. 300 fine.

THE INDUS VALLEY STATE RAILWAY.

WE have received official intimation that the opening of the Indus Valley State Railway on the 1st of October, from Sukkur to Radhan, was followed on the 8th instant by the opening of the other end of the line from Kotri to Laki, a distance of 75 miles. The remaining portion of the line between Laki and Radhan was to be opened on the 27th, on and after which date the Indus Valley State Railway will be open for passenger and goods traffic between Mooltan and Kotri. We thus get, commencing from the 27th, communication by railway from Lahore to Kurrachee, the only break in the line being between Rohri and Sukkur, where the river Indus intervenes, and over which, at some time not yet known, a bridge of one great span of 658 feet will be thrown. At present the Indus is crossed by means of a steamer hired, or, we believe, purchased for the purpose, which is employed in carrying passengers and goods across the river; and this is done without much loss of time. The mails should be conveyed, now that the line is open throughout, in about three days from Kurrachee to Lahore; but our English letters will still come by way of Bombay, we persume, for the recent postal arrangement with the British India Steam Navigation Company, for their steamers to meet the P. and O. steamers at Aden once a fortnight, is confined to the Kurrachee and Scind mails and does not include any other; indeed until the direct communication between Kurrachee and Aden is made once a week, we could depend on the Bombay route with greater reliance than on any other. Nothing is mentioned officially about the rolling stock of the Indus Valley State Railway; but for present purposes borrowing from other lines must be resorted to. The recent breaks on the line have been repaired by means of diversions, without much loss of time, and we may indulge in a hope that the future of the Indus Valley State Railway will be prosperous, but there are many difficulties yet to be overcome.—*Civil and Military Gazette.*

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 27 June, 2017

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS FOR THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

(OFFICIAL.)

THE FRONTIER FORCE.

SIMLA, OCT. 30.

The 2nd Punjab Cavalry, escorting Jacobabad Mountain Battery, and 80 Jacob's Rifles arrived at Quetta on the 28th instant. The same day the 3rd Sind Horse arrived at Mustang, two marches from Quetta. Also the 1st Punjab Cavalry arrived at Mustang, where they will remain for the present.

The Khan of Khelat has sold 20,000 maunds of his own wheat to the Quetta force at the price current of the day, and has offered to take up all the Brahai and other camels in Kachi for the use of the force.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

(*By Red Sea Cable.*)

THREATENING ASPECT OF AFFAIRS AT HOME.

LONDON, OCT. 30.

The relations at present existing between England and Russia are causing much disquiet owing to the proceedings of the Russians in Roumelia and the unabated hostility of the Russian press towards England.

ANOTHER CABINET COUNCIL SUMMONED.

Another Cabinet Council is summoned to meet in London to-day.

OPINION OF THE "TIMES."

The *Times*, in an article on the situation, says that the time has arrived to remind Russia of her Treaty engagements, which Austria, France, and Germany are all equally interested in seeing fulfilled, and adds that it is necessary at the present crisis that Englishmen should sink all party [illegible]erences and support the Government in its [illegible]

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

[illegible]iberal candidate has been elected Member of [illegible]liament for Peterborough by a large majority in the place of Mr. Whalley, deceased.

RUSSIAN EXPEDITION.

A Russian expeditionary force has been despatched to Merv.

Consols yesterday closed at 94⅛, being a drop of one quarter.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

PORT SAID, OCT. 29.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Radnorshire, homeward bound from Persian Gulf and Kurrachee, left here to-day ; and the same Company's steamer Purulia, outward bound for Persian Gulf and Kurrachee, also left here to-day.

LONDON, OCT. 29.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed flat. Surats unchanged.

The London Cotton Market has been flat.

Fair Dhollera	4⅜
The Manchester Market has been dull.	
7 lbs. Shirtings	5-7½
8¼ lbs. do.	6-7½
40s. Mule Twist	0-8⅞
Exchange on India, 60 days' sight	1-6⅞
4 per cent. Rupee Paper	72
4½ per cent. do	78½
3 per cent. Consols for account	94⅛
5 per cent. French Rente 1872	112⅛
Bar Silver	54

About £625,000 have been paid into the Bank of England.

Arrival—India.

Departure—Bengloe.

COAST WEATHER REPORTS.—OCT. 30.

CANNANORE, 4-45 p.m.—Weather fine ; wind S. W. ; thermometer max. 86, min. 73 ; W. B. 76, barometer 29·70.

CARWAR, 5 p.m.—Weather fine ; wind S.W. ; thermometer 86 ; barometer 29·814.

MANGALORE, 29th—Weather fair ; wind N. E.N.W.

TUTICORIN, 3-12 p.m.—Weather fine ; wind S. ; thermometer 88 ; barometer 29·76.

VINGORLA, 5 p.m.—Weather clear ; wind N. E. light ; thermometer 88.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON LONDON.

Bank Bills, on demand		1s. 7 3-16d.	per Re.
Do.	6 months' sight	1s. 7 15-16d.	,,
Credits,	3 ,, ,,	1s. 8d.	,,
Documents,	3 ,, ,,	1s. 8 1-16d.	,,
France,	3 ,, ,,	2·12.	,,

CORRECTION.

THE Peshawur telegram, published in our yesterday's issue, should read as follows :—"The Mountain Battery from Murree, the 4th Goorkhas, and the 45th Sikhs, are expected here on the 30th instant, the 2nd, and 6th November respectively. Preparations are being made to advance, but it is unlikely that any move can take place under a month or six weeks' time."

The meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council announced for Tuesday last has been postponed for a week.

WE learn that two of the Burmese princes have proposed to take refuge in British territory, and that two cousins of the princes have already arrived in Rangoon.

THE Nawab of Maler Kotta and the Raja of Nahun were received by H. E. the Viceroy in private durbar on the afternoon of yesterday. The Raja of Nahun has placed a regiment of his troops at the disposal of Government for service on the frontier.

THE estate of Messrs. W. Nicol and Co. was yesterday formally handed over to the Trustees Messrs. Macaulay and Moore, and the European members of the Committee of supervision, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Sharp, and Mr. Blackhall, thereupon resigned, leaving only three native creditors to compose the Committee.

GENERAL WARRE, says the Bombay correspondent of the *Pioneer*, has taken command of the Bombay Army at a grave national crisis, and military men are anxiously discussing whether he will be able to persuade Simla to do justice to the Bombay Army in giving it a fair share of brigades and staff appointments in the Afghan war. Quetta, it must be remembered, belongs to the Bombay Presidency. We are not quite satisfied at being told that when the game fairly begins we shall have our share in it. Nor do we regard Captain Moore, who has been appointed to the Quartermaster-General's Department, as a Bombay man, because he has not served in this Presidency for eighteen years. It is also fresh in our memories what the Bombay troops did in the last Afghan war, and we have not forgotten that "The Army of the Indus" was drawn from all the three Presidencies.

MR. JUSTICE TURNER, of the High Court, N.-W.-P., arrived here by the mail steamer yesterday morning, and proceeded in the evening to Allahabad. Among the passengers by the mail were a large number of military officers *en route* to the front.

MR. PHILIP ROBINSON, who has been appointed special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* with the Frontier Expedition, was amongst the passengers who arrived by the mail steamer yesterday. Mr. Robinson, who is said to have netted £1,000 by his *brochure* on Cyprus published a little book on Kabul before leaving England.

HER MAJESTY has been pleased to approve the following admissions to the Indian medical service at Bombay :—Dominic Anthony Gomes, Thomas Edward Worgan, Charles Monks, Phirozsha Jamsetjee Damania, George Henry Bull, M.D., Joseph Herbert Earle, Frederick Fitzgerald Maccartie, Charles Ulric Carruthers.

THE *Daily News*' correspondent at Malta telegraphs that the last of the Indian Contingent have now left, and that their departure is much regretted by the inhabitants. The conduct of the men during their stay in Malta has, the correspondent says, been worthy of the highest praise.

THE *Madras Mail* :—We do not think it is generally known that Sir Salar Jung, on behalf of the Hyderabad Government, was among the first to place at the disposal of the Government of India the military resources of the Hyderabad State at the time war was imminent with Russia. We have good reason to believe that a similar offer has been made by the Minister, now that hostilities are about to commence on the frontier. We hope that a few regiments of the Nizam's Contingent will be permitted to take part in the campaign.

THE *Civil and Military Gazette* says :—A rumour has reached us, which may be taken *quantum valeat*, that an officer of the Russian Mission at present in Kabul has been assassinated there. Should the report be true, further "complications" may arise, by "Holy Russia" finding a cause for interfering openly in Afghanistan affairs. The situation of the Amir will then be critical indeed, and he will be able to realise the pleasure which Byron considered so exquisite—of "having a former friend for foe."

MR. JAMES CAIRD, C.B., one of the Indian Famine Commissioners, left London on the 10th instant for Southampton, whence he proceeded by the P. and O. steamer for Bombay. He is accompanied by Mr. D. M'Culloch and by Captain E. Leach, R.E., who will act as his Private Secretary. It is expected that the enquiry will occupy six months.

THE *Pioneer* says :—Preparations are going on in Mysore for the transfer of the State to native rule. European officers will be compensated for the abolition of their appointments on terms that will shortly be announced.

A LETTER from Kohat of the 24th to the *Pioneer* says :—"The 8th King's arrived to-day, and with the 21st P. N. I., the 23rd Pioneers, and 11-9th R. A., halt for a few days. The 12th Cavalry have advanced 34 miles on the road to Thull. There is no particular news. The General is here, there, and everywhere, looking after things himself ; and the Commissariat Department is pushing on its arrangements with the utmost energy."

WE are informed on good authority, that the stones from the old musjid at Khundwa, the disposal of which was the occasion of the murder of Captain Pemberton, are about to be given over to the Mahomedan community of Khundwa out of regard to their religious scruples. This will be a questionable act, for it will appear to the badly disposed class that the object for which the murder was perpetrated has been attained ; and it will be a practical admission that the first orders issued on the subject were unwise and impolitic.

THE *Indian Daily News* :—The Hon'ble Mr. Cunningham, President of the Famine Commission, is touring in Cashmere. If Mr. Cunningham is allowed to give a correct version of what he sees, together with such reliable information of the earlier stages of the famine as he may be able to collect, we shall have an interesting, though probably, painful record of the way a famine is treated in a native province.

THE *South Indian Post* :—We hear that Major Bird, the late Cantonment Magistrate of Trichinopoly, has been placed under arrest for conduct in connection with the local Club of which he was Honorary Secretary, and that he left under charge of Colonel McCausland for Bangalore to stand his trial there by court-martial. It will be recollected that a preliminary investigation was held at Trichinopoly some little time ago with regard to the same matter. Evidently the investigation did not terminate in a manner favourable to Major Bird. Colonel Hearn, it is said, will be the President of the court-martial that will try this officer.

THE *Civil and Military Gazette* :—The Russophils, if there are any Englishmen left in the ranks of that once strong but now benighted party, can perhaps explain the very opportune despatch to Cabul of eight hundred Russian artillery and engineers, and the very timely present of a couple of mountain batteries to our good friend the Amir. It is to courtesy, no doubt, and to "a community of interest with England" that such graceful gifts are due.

COLONEL BAKER, C.B., the new Military Secretary to the Viceroy, arrived in Bombay by the mail steamer yesterday, and will, we understand, remain here a day or two before going on to Simla. The *Pioneer* says :—"Lord William Beresford officiates as Military Secretary to the Viceroy until the arrival of Colonel Baker from England. He afterwards proceeds to join General Roberts' Staff at Thull."

THE *Englishman* :—His Excellency Sir F. P. Haines has announced his intention of giving as prizes for rifle competition by regiments of British and Native Cavalry, batteries of Royal Artillery, and regiments of British and Native Infantry serving in the Bengal Presidency, for the competition which will take place during the season 1878-79, the following prizes :—For the Royal Artillery and British Cavalry—a sword, regulation pattern ; for the Native Cavalry, including the Madras regiment at Saugor, the Punjab Frontier Force, and regiments under the Government of India serving within the limits of the Bengal Presidency,—a sword ; for the British Infantry, for the aggregate prize,—a cup ; and for the individual prize, a watch, and for the Native Infantry, "the Magdala medal" with inscription.

A FIRE occurred on Saturday at the Kossipore Gun Factory, Calcutta, by which damage to the amount of Rs. 20,000 was occasioned. A large shed was burned down and a number of lathes for turning conical shot were destroyed.

AT last ! The *Whitehall Review* says :—"The two telegraph companies having lines from India are, at the instance of the Government, entering into arrangements with the London press to transmit war news 'for publication' at a rate of about 1s. 3d. instead of 4s. 6d. per word. This will make an enormous difference to the papers when fighting begins in earnest."

IT is stated in a home paper that some half dozen young army officers, animated by a laudable wish to gain a practical insight into the business of their profession, have started on a little trip to Afghanistan. They comprise Lieutenants Knox and Wodehouse, R.H.A. ; Bell-Irving, Good-Adams, Saltmarshe, and Murray, R.A. All these names will be found in the list of passengers who arrived by yesterday's Mail.

A LETTER from St. Petersburg, dated the 1st inst., in the *Pesther Lloyd* says that the organization of the Nihilist party is making great progress. Several secret revolutionary papers have been established during the last few weeks, and the country is flooded with pamphlets, purporting to emanate from the organs of "the Russia of the future." The police authorities have called upon the public to hand over to the Government all printed matter of a revolutionary tendency which may reach them by post ; but this appeal has not, so far, been responded to. The last number of the *Revolutionary Gazette*, which is published at St. Petersburg, contains a formal declaration of war against the Government. "We Russian revolutionists" it says, "only echo the sentiments of the whole Russian people when we declare war to the knife against the present rotten and bankrupt system of government. The noble, the merchant, the tradesman, and the peasant, all are alike weary of the tyranny of the tchinovniks ; we will no longer tolerate a rule of satraps now that we have sacrificed 300,000 human lives for the extinction of a government in Bulgaria which was much more humane, liberal, and respectable than our Mongolian one. The people are not foolish enough to allow themselves to be slaughtered for foreigners when they are themselves much more unfortunate than those Bulgarians whom the impostors of Moscow called their brothers. . . . Turkey has no Mouravieffs, Trepoffs, or Mesentzeffs, of whom there are hundreds in Russia. . . . It is to the Czardom that we owe all our misfortunes ; it has made us slaves, depriving us of all moral dignity, and degrading us to an enervated people without individuality or liberal aspirations. If we wish to recover our rights as men, we must expel the Romanoffs, and exterminate root and branch the system of government they have introduced."

THE Pera correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says that he is officially authorized to contradict the statements made in a Constantinople telegram published in the *Politische Correspondenz*, to the effect that a secret envoy of the Amir was instructed to claim the Sultan's intervention to prevent England declaring war against Afghanistan ; to convince the Sultan that an alliance with Russia was advisable ; and that his Majesty had sent a secret embassy to Afghanistan to sound the Mussulman population of Central Asia as to a Pan-Islamite league against England as well as the Czar. The whole story is said to be a gross fabrication.

COLONEL BURNABY writes to a home paper as follows :—"In the *Times* of the 9th inst, is found the following information with reference to the disposition of our troops in Hindustan :—'It may be of interest to some (?) [the note of interrogation is my own] to learn that the total strength of our forces on the immediate frontier from the sea to Abbotabad, including Kurrachee, Hyderabad, . . . together with the reserves at Rawul Pindee . . . . and the advanced post of Quetta, amounts to 800 British and 7,000 native cavalry ; 12,000 British, and 21,000 native infantry, with 102 guns. Many of these are at stations which it is absolutely impossible to denude of British troops—namely, Umritsar, the headquarters of the Sikh religion ; Lahore, with its fort and large fanatical population ; Ferozepore, with its arsenal ; Attock, with its bridge of boats over the Indus. Then, too, any stoppage of the rail at Jhelum will prevent any very rapid movement up-country.' Now, Sir, all this information is telegraphed from the Russian Embassy in London to St. Petersburg and Tashkend ; from thence it is re-translated and sent on to the Amir of Afghanistan. Is it right on the part of the editor of the *Times* to publish the above military data at the present time, when we are probably on the eve of one of the most serious wars that we have been engaged in since 1815 ?"

THE *London and China Telegraph* understands that the directors of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, with a view to the requirements of the new Mail Service, commencing in 1880, have contracted with Messrs. Caird and Co. for two steamers of 3,200 tons and 600-horse power nominal. The directors have also arranged for the refitting of eight of their steamers, in addition to the Indus, now undergoing repairs on the Clyde.

WE (*Pall Mall Gazette*) understand that her Majesty's Government, wishing to mark their sense of Lord Odo Russell's services as Third Plenipotentiary at the Berlin Congress, advised the Queen to confer on him the honour of a peerage. We also understand that Lord Odo Russell (possibly to mark his sense of the services at the Congress aforesaid of the First and Second Plenipotentiaries) has respectfully declined the offer.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* :—Lord Shaftesbury's recent letter to the *Times* with regard to factory legislation in India will, we may hope, direct public attention to a matter of considerable and growing importance. The number of hours which women and children work in the cotton factories of Bombay is altogether excessive. Such periods of labour were never heard of in this country in the worst times of unrestricted hours of employment ; and certainly neither the climate nor the stamina of the people of India would justify more exhausting work than that which was found prejudicial in England. And, as Lord Shaftesbury says, these excessive hours of work are not only injurious to the people of India, but unjust to manufacturers here, who are exposed to restrictions from which the mill-owners in Bombay are free.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* :—Few persons are aware how large a proportion of the revenues of India are already expended for military purposes. The Indian Army charges for the current year are estimated at £15,800,000, while the whole revenue derived from excise, customs, salt duties, stamps, and land revenue is rather less than £35,000,000. We thus see that in India nearly one-half of the taxes are spent for military purposes ; while in England, which is as rich as India is poor, the army expenses for the current year are estimated at £15,595,800, or less than one-fourth of the revenue derived from customs, excise, stamps, land tax, income tax, and house duty, which amounts to about £66,500,000. Again, if the results of the army expenditure in England and India are compared, it will be seen that while the expenditure for both services is almost identical, the strength of the English services is—regular army 128,037, army reserve (first and second class) 43,000, militia and militia reserve 136,778, and volunteers and yeomanry 254,734, or a total of 562,549 men. On the other hand, the Indian Army numbers only 62,650 European and 125,000 native troops, or a total of about 188,000 men. The excessive cost of the Indian Army—two-thirds of which is composed of native forces—as compared with that of England, seems to demand attention. The army charges would either appear to be unjustly apportioned as far as India is concerned, or else the cost of our Indian Army is extravagantly high. For an annual expenditure of just sixteen millions sterling India ought to be able to show a better result than an army of 188,000 men, without any reserves whatever.

THE *Daily News* observes that the Berlin Treaty would seem to be in some danger of having half its stipulations broken through, and the other half forgotten. Most of the Powers who were concerned in making the treaty seem at present to be engaged in reminding one another that this or that provision, deemed to be of vital importance, is allowed to remain a dead letter, or is wilfully frustrated. Trouble seems to have come with the Berlin Treaty almost everywhere. Nothing could be more hopeless than the state of Turkey, while the condition into which Austria has been brought directly by its operation will impose a greater strain on the cohesive power of that curiously constituted Empire than it has had to bear since Francis Joseph was crowned King of Hungary. The *Daily News* does not go over these facts merely as a matter of melancholy retrospect. For the English people the real importance of what has been done belongs to the present and the future. The policy that made the Treaty of Berlin, and called it peace, is as active as ever to-day. One peculiarity of that policy—a peculiarity on which it seems specially to pride itself—is that it works in secret and proclaims itself by surprise. Not a single important step which the Government took even while Parliament was sitting this year was taken with the sanction of the country. For the confusion engendered by the perversely ingenious ar[illegible]ity of the Treaty of Berlin, the people of England are only responsible in the sense that England has to bear her share of the consequences. But the policy is not England's nor English. If (the *News* adds) we are to judge of what the Government are now preparing by what they have already done, we can hardly be expected to look forward without alarm to the next revelation of the ministerial purpose with which time or chance my favour us.

THE following observations from the *Pall Mall Gazette* might be pointed by the remark that General Strachey, who is responsible for the muddle of the gauges, is still the leading spirit of the Government of India :—In view of present urgency on the North-West frontier, the Indian Government must feel cause to rue the indecision and vacillation which have marked its dealings with the extension of railways in the Punjaub. As soon as the line from Delhi to Lahore was allotted to a guaranteed company many years ago it became evident that a line from Lahore to the Indus, and ultimately to the frontier at Peshawur, was a political and military necessity ; and this line was selected as the first to be undertaken by the direct agency of the State, without the intervention of a company. Economy and no doubt expedition in construction were to be the result of this new policy. Unfortunately, however, the Indian Government could not for long get to the point of settling what sort of a railway it was to be. Survey after survey was made, and report after report called for, and one engineer followed another over the ground ; but the years passed away, and one Governor-General succeeded another, and still the railway was not begun. At last it was determined in the interests of economy to lay down the rails on the existing trunk road, a very fine work ; but even then it had to be settled whether the regular Indian gauge should be adopted, or whether the advocates for economy should make their first experiment of a metre gauge on this link ; and a very pretty war of words ensued on this point, the Commander-in-Chief and headquarter staff, and all the railway experts about the Government taking part, and even the Governor-General and the Secretary of State being dragged into the controversy. In the first instance, we believe, the champions of the narrow gauge carried their point ; but the disadvantage of allowing a break of gauge on so important a strategical line was so strongly pressed on the Government that at last it has determined to relay the line—or, rather, the small part of it that had been finished—with broad gauge. Next it was discovered that while the great military road formed an excellent foundation whereon to lay down the rails, the effect of so employing it was to render it quite useless for its original purpose as a common road, so that another embankment is now in course of construction, to which the rails are to be transferred, when the road may be allowed to revert to its original use. Meanwhile nearly ten years have elapsed since the Company's line was completed to Lahore, giving through communication from Calcutta and Bombay with that place. Yet only 100 miles of the State line have been opened, and on the greater part of the remaining distance to the frontier, about 170 miles, scarcely a beginning has been made.

ACCUMULATING BURDENS ON THE CITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—The letters of your correspondent "Ursa Major" and (I would hope) still more decidedly the letter of Messrs. Graham and Co. to the Chamber indicate that, at last, local opinion is waking up to the magnitude of the burdens—in great measure extraneous and unjust burdens—that are being forced on the trade and city of Bombay. The letter of the light-hearted "Leo," on the other hand, serves to show how inadequately the incidence and pressure of those prospective burdens are appreciated by many, even amongst the mercantile community, who have not taken the trouble to go into the subject for themselves. For instance, take "Leo's" offhand remark, "there appears to be no reason why any additional dues should be levied on the shipping, &c. ;" whereas, there is the great fact of the 389 lakhs piled on the trade of the port, and the "reason" that the authorities are determined—as is sufficiently obvious all through the papers—to get at least four per cent. on that enormous sum with reason or without. The peculiarly keenly set commercial spirit developed by the talented R. E. who during the last two years has had most to do with the Port Trust scheme and the recent negotiations, ought to convince even the amiable and optimist "Leo" that there is no hope from that quarter of mitigation, forbearance, or remission. The trade of Bombay will have to yield or find the annual interest set down for it under the bonds now being forged in the ante-chambers of the Legislative Council.

"Ursa Major" himself, much as his warnings are to be commended, shows an inadequate sense of the gravity of the danger to which the city is exposed, when he points to the British shipping trade as being most largely concerned. That interest can take care of itself ; and the heavy charges to be laid on shipping in Bombay compel English shipowners to shun this port : it is Bombay and the country behind that will suffer betimes more than London and Liverpool shipowners. "Ursa Major" is much more to the point when he writes :—

> "The trade should only be called upon to pay for foreshore rights, and not for the Elphinstone [and all the rest of the land] estate the value of which, together with the amount to be paid to the Colaba Company as compensation for forfeiture of foreshore rights, should be struck out of the account."

But when he goes on to give as a reason that Government have erred and made a bad bargain, he rather, I think, misses the point which is of primary importance to keep in view, namely,—trade can have no interest in, and ought to have no responsibility for, land speculations or investments in building ground.

In my former letters on this subject, more especially the long one that appeared in your columns in April last, this view has been fully stated. The more the subject is studied the more evident will it become that the efforts, not only of the mercantile community but of all citizens interested in the permanent welfare of the city, should be directed towards a total separation between the land estates and the wharfage or foreshore properties all along the eastern portion of the island. Under the present scheme trade will have to sustain the burden of unproductive land during a generation or two, and if it eventually yields a profit over the present capitalist valuation, that profit will go either to "provincial" or "imperial" funds. It is a case of "heads I win tails you lose."

There is on the surface of the official correspondence an appearance of desiring to conciliate, and a willingness to adopt or alter the form of the levies and exactions that will be made to secure the prescribed revenue on the enormous total of 389 lakhs, but there is no mistake as to the inexorable determination that such revenue shall somehow be wrung out of the trade and shipping of the port. There seems at first sight a show of liberality in the Government of India directing Sir R. Temple to have a Bill passed through the Legislative Council to define the extent and method of the new and increased burdens—there is the wisdom of the serpent in this. Our Legislative Councils are little better than chambers for recording the decrees of the Executive, but the process gives a semblance of legality to what is enacted. In this instance, where an influential section of the European community is concerned, it might be well to meet this challenge and contest the imposition stage by stage. The right of any class of subjects to be represented by counsel before the Legislative Council was secured by a recent native member of that body. Now is the time to exercise that right to the full ; and the most direct and effectual line for any counsel to take would be that trade does not want the land, has nothing to do with it, and refuses to buy the interest charges levied for that portion of the Port Trust investment.

It is a question to be asked what has Bombay done that it should be treated so much worse than Calcutta in this respect ; why our trade should be saddled with an overwhelming burden for dead stock, when the Calcutta Port Trust has vendible and valuable sites given to it, or started without debt, and is already showing a handsome profit on its harbour side appliances ? The mercantile community stand first to repel this great danger to the city, but they must be supported by the owners of property, who are far more interested than they seem to be aware in the impending burden which will tend to depreciate all property in Bombay to a very serious extent. I am neither a great bear nor a little bear, and certainly not a property owner ; but seeing clearly as I do the danger which is hanging over this city and port, and foreseeing the wearisome struggle which will be entailed on this community if the trade is made to bear the past burden of these official land speculations, I have felt once more to raise the note of warning.

October 29. M. W.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

IT is now five years since the benefits of representative government were conferred on the inhabitants of Bombay by the passing of the Municipal Act providing for a Municipal Corporation to replace the old Bench of Justices, and conferring on the ratepayers the right to elect a certain proportion of the members of the newly-formed body as direct representatives to look after their interests. The Act provided that thirty-two members should be elected in the ten wards into which the town was divided, as follows :—No. 1 Ward, including the Fort Colaba, and the Esplanade, with a population of 59,160 persons, five members ; Ward No. 2, including the Market, Mandvie and Chuckla, with a population of 115,046 persons, six members ; Ward No. 3, including Dhobie Talao, Funnuswady, and Bhooleshwur, with a population of 94,704 persons, four members ; Ward No. 4, including Oomercarry and Dongree, with a population of 75,429 persons, three members ; Ward No. 5, including Khara Talao, Coomarwarra, Camateepoora, and Byculla, with a population of 126,260 persons, four members ; Ward No. 6, including Khetwady, Girgaum and Chowpatty, with a population of 53,582 persons, three members ; Ward No. 7, including Walkeshwar and Mahaluxmee, with a population of 12,058 persons, three members ; Ward No. 8, including Mazagon and Tarwaree, with a population of 31,056 persons, two members ; Ward No. 9, including Sewree, Parell, and Sion, with a population of 29,805 persons, one member ; and Ward No. 10, including Mahim and Worlee, with a population of 24,352 persons, also one member. The first election took place on the 26th of July 1873, when the principal feature noticed was the entire absence of the fun and excitement, the busy canvassing and cross-canvassing, the published addresses and spoken speeches, which precede and accompany an election in England. It was expected that the novelty of the ceremony would be attended with some public enthusiasm ; that the streets would present a busy scene from the residences of the electors to the different polling places ; that the candidates would be running a race in hot competition with each other for the possession of the new civic honour ; and that the polling places would be the scenes of bustle and confusion from the pressure of crowds of eager electors. But such anticipations were wholly unverified, and the event passed off as tamely as could be. The polling officers had a busy time of it—not from electoral disturbances of any kind, but simply because of the difficulties arising from the ignorance of native voters who were helpless without instruction to go through the formalities of the voting, or who thought they were qualified to vote when they were not. Not a few came to the polling officer's desk without knowing who they were to vote for ; and when they were asked they settled the difficulty by putting down their names as voting for themselves ! In a number of the wards not one-fourth of the total number of qualified ratepayers came forward to vote. The first Corporationers elected in that year were the following :—Ward No. 1, Messrs. Byramjee Cursetjee Gandy, S. S. Bengalee, D. S. Kemp, Varjeewundas Madhowdas, and A. J. Macdonald.—Ward No. 2, Messrs. Vandravundas Purshotumdas, Dinanath R. Khote, Cumroodin Sulleman, Trecumjee Velljee, Fazoola Cassumbhoy, and Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik.—Ward No. 3, Dr. Cowasjee Hormusjee, Mr. Nowrojee B. Suntok, Dr. Shantaram Vithul, and Mr. Bhugwandas Purshotumdas.—Ward No. 4, the Hon'ble Munguldas Nathoobhoy, Mr. Trecumjee Velljee, and Mr. Cumroodin Sulleman.—Ward No. 5, Mr. Govind Balcrishna, Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik, Mr. Heerjeebhoy H. Shroff, and Mr. Chubildas Lulloobhoy.—Ward No. 6, Messrs. V. R. Luxmonjee, Junardhun Gopal, and Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik.—Ward No. 7, Messrs. Macfarlane, Raghunath N. Khote, and V. J. Sunkersett.—Ward No. 8, Messrs. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee and Rustomjee Merwanjee Narielwalla.—Ward No. 9, Mr. Nanabhoy Byramjee Jeejeebhoy.—Ward No. 10, Dr. Blaney. Those who were elected in more than one ward were allowed to select the ward which they wished to represent on the Corporation, and others next in rank to them filled up the vacancies.

The second election day was the 26th July 1875, when the growth of considerable interest was observable in the activity which was evinced in the different wards. Perhaps the keenest struggle at this election, which was held during the time of Mr. H. E. Jacomb, acting Municipal Commissioner, took place in the Fort. For some time previously rumours had been flying about regarding the activity of Messrs. Nanabhoy Byramjee Jeejeebhoy, Sorabjee Shapoorjee Bengalee, and one or two others ; and although rumour was not quite correct in its facts, it at all events portended the liveliness which actually took place. Some of the symptoms of an English municipal election were noticeable. A "skit" was published in which the qualifications of the different candidates were described with scathing canvassing agents were active ; vernacular circulars were distributed ; the aid of business influences was invoked ; and the polling place was thronged by persons anxiously watching the ebb and flow of the tide of voting in favour of one candidate or another. The coming of the late Sir Cowasjee Jehangir Readymoney to register his vote at the Fort polling place was an occurrence to lend additional interest to the ceremony. There was, however, one circumstance to disturb the harmony of the voting. The votes of European gentlemen representing firms were not recorded in consequence of legal advice taken by the Municipal Commissioner. The point was an important one—namely, whether the duly constituted agent of a firm was not entitled to a vote at the elections ; and an appeal from the decision of the Municipal authorities was preferred to Mr. Webb, then acting Chief Magistrate. The decision was adverse to the appellants, for the magistrate ruled that only a partner in a firm could vote on behalf of that firm. Some days before the election day a memorial, influentially signed, was forwarded to Government complaining that one of the rules for the arrangement of the elections issued by the Municipal Commissioner restricted the electors to voting for only one candidate, and that the allocation of members to the several wards was thereby rendered so greatly unequal and unfair that the electoral franchise conferred by the Act was to a large extent rendered nugatory ; and the memorialists asked that each voter should be allowed to vote for as many candidates as there were members appointed to his ward, or for any smaller number. On a petition of the Trades' Association, the Bombay Town Council forwarded a resolution to Government to the same effect as the memorial. But the Government refused to make any change in the system of voting on the eve of a contested election. The polling officers at the second election were Messrs. Hutchinson, Brunton, Barrow, Fellows, John Hewson, Eduljee Rustomjee, Sorabjee Nowrojee Cooper, Framjee D. Badhurjee, and Succaram Narayen. It is scarcely necessary to give the names of the thirty-two candidates elected, for most of them are still members of the present Corporation. The total number of qualified voters at the time of the first election was 3,927, of whom only 826 persons tendered their votes at the polling places. The interest felt by them in municipal affairs seems to have grown subsequently, for at the second election in 1875, out of 3,474 qualified voters, 1,219 voters registered their votes. The number of voters has this year taken a sudden leap to 6,550 owing to the franchise being extended to owners of carriages and horses, and to ratepayers who have paid rates to an amount not less than Rs. 30 per annum, as compared to the minimum amount in former years, namely Rs. 50 per annum.

The regulated time for the third biennial election was in July 1877, and accordingly in that month Mr. Grant, then acting Municipal Commissioner, made the preliminary arrangements for an election which was fixed for the 26th July 1877. A Government notification was issued to that effect ; and the polling officers and polling places were appointed. On the eve of the proposed election, however, the Municipal Commissioner was served with a notice by certain ratepayers objecting to one gentleman whose name appeared in the printed list of voters, on the ground that he was ineligible because (according to the wording of the Act) he had not paid "house rate and police and lighting rates." The Commissioner considered it necessary to take the opinion of the Advocate General on the point, and the learned gentleman's opinion was that the objection was a valid one, the gentleman objected to not having paid both owners' and occupiers' rates. It was the intention of the Legislature that not only the owners of house property, but also persons who paid the occupiers' rates, should be eligible to vote and be elected members of the Corporation ; but the wrong conjunction was used, and the words "house rates *and* police and lighting rates" made it necessary that in order to secure a vote, the ratepayer must pay all three rates. For the first two elections, the Municipal Commissioner had made out his lists of voters on the principle that owners and occupiers were equally eligible to vote ; and in the intended election of July 1877, the same principle was acted upon, and objected to. This defect having been pointed out, it was decided that the elections could not be held until the Act had been amended, so they were indefinitely postponed ; and in August 1877, the Bombay Legislative Council passed a short Indemnity Act, validating the election of the Corporations of 1873 and 1875, and legalising the continuance of the existing Corporation until the Amended Municipal Act, which it was intended to pass, could be brought into operation. After some delay caused by the necessity for submitting the draft Bill to the Viceroy for approval, a Municipal Amendment Act was passed through the Bombay Legislative Council, from which was expunged the flaw above alluded to and which embodied several other alterations, including the extension of the franchise by limiting the amount necessary to be paid to Rs. 30, and extending the qualifying rate to the wheel tax. Under this new Act, the elections of yesterday were held.

A very important distinction between the system of the preceding elections and that of yesterday was that no vote could be registered for a candidate whose name had not been proposed and seconded by duly qualified ratepayers and lodged with the Municipal Commissioner by noon on the 23rd inst., that is, fully a week previous to the election. Thirty-nine names—thirty-six natives and only three Europeans—had been so submitted to the Commissioner. The contest for the thirty-two seats on the Corporation lay between the thirty-nine candidates ; and as may be easily imagined the competition was rather a feeble one in some of the wards. In three or four of the wards, however, where there were more candidates than seats on the Corporation, there was a great deal of excitement and whipping-in of electors, especially in wards Nos. 2, 3, and 5. In the three last-named, as the doors of the polling places opened, there was a crushing rush of electors who were eager to register their votes and leave in time for the prosecution of their daily avocations. They were brought to the polling places in carriages hired for them by the candidates or by the canvassers employed by them. So great was the pressure upon them that Mr. Fellows and Mr. Sorabjee Cooper had to seek the aid of the police and to shut up for a time the doors of the rooms in which they held the poll. We will now proceed to describe the results of the polling in the different wards *seriatim*. The asterisks denote the names of the members elected for the respective wards :—

WARD NO. 1—FORT, COLABA, AND ESPLANADE. POLLING OFFICER, MR. HUTCHINSON. POLLING PLACE, MUNICIPAL OFFICES.

In this ward there were six candidates for five vacancies. Two of the candidates, Mr. Rahimtoola Mahomed Sayani and Mr. Cowasjee Limjee Manockjee, were old members. The four new aspirants for civic honours were Mr. J. R. Duxbury, Mr. Hurkissondas Narrotumdas, Mr. Hormusjee Nowrojee Saklatwalla, and Mr. W. M. Wood. The modest appeal which the last-named gentleman published in the papers (the only address to the ratepayers which appeared on behalf of any of the candidates) was not attended with much success, in spite of the expression of his opinion that his "intimate and continuous acquaintance with the affairs of this city and long familiarity with the principles of Municipal administration" especially fitted him "to be of service to the public as a member of the Corporation." Only three votes were polled for Mr. Wood. A fourth vote was tendered in his behalf by Mr. Tyrrel Leith, but it was objected to on the ground that Mr. Leith, who is entitled to a vote as a Fellow of the University, had not made known to the Municipal Commissioner in which ward he wished to exercise his privilege. This objection seems a somewhat stupid one, but other votes were rejected for reasons even more ridiculous. For instance, Mr. Soundy, a well known Bombay tradesman, was not allowed to vote because he had paid the rates in the name under which the trades (Messrs. Soundy and Company) and not in his own name as an individual. He explained that the name of the firm was only a name and nothing more,—that he had no partners but was both Soundy and the Co. himself ; but the polling officer steadily declined to record his vote. Other votes were rejected on similar grounds, a partner of a firm not being allowed to vote in the firm's name. The matter appears to stand thus. If Messrs. Forbes and Co., for instance, pay their rates in the name of Mr. C. H. B. Forbes, or any other individual partner, Mr. Forbes or the partner named has a right to vote ; but if the rates are paid in the name of Messrs Forbes and Co., neither Mr. Forbes nor any other member of the firm can vote. The business of tendering and recording the votes was conducted very quietly. The candidates, several of whom were present during the day, seemed to know for the most part beforehand who would vote for them, and when one of their supporters entered the room he was cordially shaken by the hand and instructed in the proper form of recording his vote. When the poll closed at 6 o'clock, the number of votes recorded for each candidate was as follows :—

	Candidates.	Votes
1.	Mr. Hormusjee Nowrojee Saklatwalla	106*
2.	Mr. Hurkissondass Nurrotumdass	71*
3.	Mr. J. R. Duxbury	40*
4.	Mr. Rahmtoola Mahomed Sayani	10*
5.	Mr. Cowasjee Manockjee Limjee	10*
6.	Mr. W. M. Wood	3
	Total votes	240

The total number of qualified voters in this ward is 1,114, out of whom 240 tendered their votes.

WARD NO. 2.—MARKET, MANDVIE, AND CHUCKLA. POLLING OFFICER, MR. BRUNTON. POLLING PLACE, ARTHUR CRAWFORD MARKET.

A larger number of persons came to the polling place this year than had been the case at either of the two previous elections. The competition was very close in the early part of the day, and the polling place was besieged on all sides by a swarm of electors, who blocked up the stone staircase, leading up to the quarters of the Superintendent of Markets. Mr. Brunton received the votes of thirty-two electors as objected votes and rejected those of several others, owing to their names not appearing in the published list of voters. The majority of the voters were Hindoos and Mahomedans, a few Parsees and Jews, two East Indians, and one European. In the latter part of the day the competition was very close between Mr. Vundravundas Purshotumdas and Mr. Lukhmidas Khemjee ; and the result of the polling stood as follows at 6 p.m. :—

	Candidates.	Votes.
1.	Mr. Tribhowundas Varjeewundas	82*
2.	Mr. Fazelbhoy C. Gangjee	80*
3.	Mr. Bomanjee Pestonjee Master	65*
4.	Mr. Hormusjee Dadabhoy	54*
5.	Mr. Vundravundas Purshotumdas	49*
6.	Mr. Lukhmidas Khemjee	48*
7.	Mr Rahimtoola M. Sayani	1
	Total votes	379

All the candidates except the first were members of the Corporation. Mr. Rahimtoola had withdrawn from this and selected another ward, in which he was successful. The total number of qualified voters in this ward is 1,688, out of whom about one-fifth came to the polling place.

WARD NO. 3.—DHOBIE TALAO, FANASWADY, AND BHOOLESHWUR. POLLING OFFICER, MR. FELLOWS. POLLING PLACE, GIRGAUM POLICE COURT.

As the door of the polling place opened, Mr. Fellows was hard pressed on all sides by a vociferous pack of electors who were anxious to leave in time for their places of business. The polling was carried very briskly until about tiffin-time when it grew slack, to burst forth again with increased vigour between 4 and 6 o'clock. Four votes were received as objected votes, on which the Municipal Commissioner would have to pronounce his decision hereafter. There was a very close competition between Mr. Bhaishunker and Mr. Bhugwandas, who were in a tie at a quarter past 5 o'clock ; but the latter gained over the former by a single vote in the end. There being only four seats in this ward, Mr. Bhaishunker is of course thrown out. A singular feature of the voting in this ward was that more than a dozen of the electors who came to the polling place were Parsee and Hindoo ladies. At 6 p. m. the result of the election stood as follows :—

	Candidates.	Votes.
1.	Mr. Nowrojee Furdoonjee	141*
2.	Dr. Cowasjee Hormusjee	92*
3.	Mr. Nowrojee B. Suntok	70*
4.	Mr. Bhugwandas Purshotumdas	67*
5.	Mr. Bhaishunker Nanabhi	66
	Total votes	436

The total number of electors in this ward is 1,103, out of whom about one-third exercised their privilege to vote. All the successful candidates are members of the existing Corporation.

WARD NO. 4.—OOMERCARRY AND DOONGREE. POLLING OFFICER, MR. BARROW. POLLING PLACE, ARTHUR CRAWFORD MARKET.

There were three candidates for this ward and as many seats on the Corporation ; and the former worked their way to the civic honours intended for them in a leisurely manner. Among the electors the polling officer was honoured with the presence of two Hindoo ladies at his polling booth, and he was no doubt as polite to them as the circumstances of his position could allow him to be. Two of the votes were received as objected votes, while seven others were rejected. Out of 580 electors, 109 went before the polling officer. They were chiefly Mahomedans, a few Parsees and Jews, and but one East Indian. The result of the poll was as follows :—

	Candidates.	Votes.
1.	Mr. Hassumbhoy Visram	70*
2.	Mr. Nusserwanjee Chandabhoy	25*
3.	Mr. Joomabhoy Lalljee	7*
	Total votes	102

The first and last are members of the present Corporation.

WARD NO. 5.—KHARA TALAO, KOOMBARWADDA, CAMATEEPOORA, AND BYCULLA. POLLING OFFICER, MR. SORABJEE N. COOPER. POLLING PLACE, GIRGAUM POLICE COURT.

There were 784 qualified voters in this ward, of whom about one-fourth came to the polling booth. There were four seats and five candidates in this ward, and for the greater part of the day a sharp contest was sustained between Mr. Bedarkar, Mr. Freeborn, and Mr. Hurrichund, the last being eventually thrown out. As was the case before Mr. Fellows, a dense mass of electors poured in as soon as the polling officer took his seat, and the assistance of the police had to be called in. Petty squabbling raged fiercely among the canvassers occasionally ; and at one time so great was the rush upon the polling place that the doors of the room had to be closed for a short while. At 6 p.m. the result of the poll was as follows :—

	Candidates.	Votes.
1.	Mr. Goculdas Jugmohundas	54*
2.	Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik	51*
3.	Mr. Khunderao C. Bedarkar	44*
4.	Mr. E. Freeborn	34*
5.	Mr. Hurrichund Chintamon	14
	Total votes	197

Besides the above, five were received as objected votes. Mr. Joomabhoy Lalljee was proposed as a candidate in this ward, but withdrew to represent another.

WARD NO. 6.—KHETWADY, GIRGAUM, AND CHOWPATTY. POLLING OFFICER, MR. SORABJEE N. COOPER. POLLING PLACE, GIRGAUM POLICE COURT.

Luckily for Mr. Sorabjee Cooper, who was the only polling officer who had charge of two wards, the polling in this ward pursued the even tenor of its way without any great hurry and flurry. There were as many seats as there were candidates, none of whom was burdened by a fear of disappointment in the end. Canvassers, however, were as actively plying their trade in this as they did in some of the other wards. One old voter, verging close upon eighty years or more, was brought up to the polling place by these worthies in a palanquin, and had to be supported by two persons as he stood before the polling officer to answer certain formal enquiries. The answers to these proved satisfactory ; his vote was admitted ; and he departed with the thanks of the candidate who had summoned him there even under a load of difficulties. At 6 p. m. the following was the result of the poll :—

	Candidates.	Votes.
1.	Sir Mungaldass Nathoobhoy	97*
2.	Mr. Jamsetjee Pallonjee Kapadia	17*
3.	Mr. V. R. Luxmonjee	14*
	Total votes	128

The total number of qualified ratepayers in this ward is 521, of whom about one-fifth appeared at the poll. Two votes were recorded as objected votes. In wards Nos. 5 and 6 Sir Mungaldass and Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik were the only gentlemen who were not present in person at the polling, the rest were eagerly watching the fluctuations in the polling papers.

WARD NO. 7.—WALKESHWUR AND MAHALUXMEE. POLLING OFFICER, MR. SUCCARAM NARAYEN. POLLING PLACE, MUNICIPAL OFFICES.

There were only three candidates for three vacancies, so each was sure of being elected ; but there was some little rivalry amongst the three as to who should poll the largest number of votes. The three candidates were Mr. Rugoonath Narayen Khote, Mr. Khursetjee Rustomjee Cama, and Mr. Dinanath Rugoonath Khote. The two first named are old members for this ward ; Mr. Dinanath Khote came in in place of Mr. G. S. Lynch, who declined to stand again. The result was :—

	Candidates.	Votes.
1.	Mr. Rugoonath Narayen Khote	39*
2.	Mr. Khursetjee Rustomjee Cama	21*
3.	Mr. Dinanath Rugoonath Khote	6*
	Total votes	66

Out of 293 voters in this ward, about one-fourth appeared before the polling officer.

WARD NO. 8—MAZAGON AND TARWARREE. POLLING OFFICER, MR. EDULJEE RUSTOMJEE. POLLING PLACE, MAZAGON POLICE OFFICE.

The number of voters is 230, of whom only 34 put in an appearance before the polling officer. The candidates for the two seats in this ward were Mr. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee and Mr. Byramjee Nusserwanjee Sirvae. As it was known that there was no contest between the candidates, the polling was dull and progressed at a very slow pace. During the greater part of the day, Mr. Banajee kept ahead of his competitor, and at the close of the day the polling stood thus :—

	Candidates.	Votes.
1.	Mr. Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee	19*
2.	Mr. Byramjee Nusserwanjee Sirvae	15*
	Total votes	34

The polling took place in a bungalow known as the "Bishop's House," and latterly as the Freemasons' Hall, just behind the Sudder Court. Here the Mazagon Police Office was temporarily located while repairs were being done to the old premises, to which it will be removed to-day.

WARD NO. 9.—SEWREE, PARELL, AND SION. POLLING OFFICER, MR. FRAMJEE D. BADHURJEE. POLLING PLACE, PARELL POLICE STATION.

The number of qualified voters in this ward is 193, of whom thirty-two appeared at the poll, nineteen being Parsees, eight Hindoos, three Europeans, one Mahomedan, and one East Indian. Mr. Nanabhoy Byramjee Jeejeebhoy was all alone in his glory ; and none appeared to contest the representation of the ward with him. The poll therefore was :—

	Candidate.	Votes.
1.	Mr. Nanabhoy Byramjee Jeejeebhoy	32*

WARD NO. 10.—MAHIM AND WORLEE. POLLING OFFICER, MR. NUSSERWANJEE FURDOONJEE PARUCK. POLLING PLACE, MAHIM CUSTOM HOUSE.

There is only one seat for this ward while there were two candidates in the field. The competition was perhaps the keenest in this ward. At the start Dr. DeSouza had twice as many votes as his rival, and he kept ahead of the latter until 2 o'clock. Soon after tiffin, however, the doctor lagged behind and was never afterwards able to overtake his compeer even though, in the impetuosity of despair, he registered a vote for himself ! Among the electors were thirty-seven Hindoos, fifteen Parsees, nine Europeans, and fifteen Portuguese. One vote for Dr. DeSouza was objected to. The result was :—

	Candidates.	Votes.
1.	Mr. Janardhun Gopal	39*
2.	Dr. P. C. DeSouza	37
	Total votes	76

Thus ended the third election of Corporationers in Bombay ; and it is to be hoped the result may prove as satisfactory to the electors as it must be to those elected.

DEPARTURE OF THE S. S. ARABIA.

THE following is the list of passengers per Italian Mail Steamer Arabia, Captain Serra, which will sail to-morrow, the 1st November, at 4 p.m. :—

For Genoa—Captain Bourdillon, Mrs Bourdillon, Mr Pasero, Lieut Col Iredell.

For Naples—Mr F Cianciaroli and Mr G Bonnelli,

For Beyrout—Mr Prendergast, Mrs Prendergast and three children.

For Suez—Mrs Vuccino, sister, and child, Mrs Macropolo.

For Port Said—Mr Agelasto, Mr Garabet,

For Aden—M Biarard,

BOMBAY.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Melvill returned to Bombay from Mahableshwur yesterday.

COLLECTION OF LICENCE TAX.—Up to the 24th instant the sum levied on account of the licence tax in Poona amounted to Rs. 26,200.

GENERAL PRIMROSE, C. S. I., Commanding the Poona Division, who had been staying at Matheran, returned to Poona on Tuesday last.

HIGH COURT APPELLATE SIDE.—The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Melvill and Mr. Justice Kemball will sit on the Appellate Side of the High Court to-day to dispose of criminal appeals.

ARRIVALS FROM EUROPE.—The Hon'ble Justices Turner and Spankie, of the High Court of Allahabad, Mr. Yorke Smith, solicitor, and Captain H. L. Nutt, Assistant Political Agent, Gohelwur Prant, returned to Bombay from Europe by yesterday's Mail.

THE NIZAM'S DOMINIONS.—It is stated that the Nizam's Government has sanctioned the grant of fourteen lakhs of rupees for the construction of barracks for soldiers in Hydrabad, Shorapore, Dharasee, West Raichore, and Goolburga.

THEFT.—Samlia Surjoodas and eight other Hindoos were yesterday convicted by Mr. W. Webb of committing theft of property belonging to Dulleebund Omed, consisting of a box containing Rs. 6-2. They were each sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

COMMITTED TO THE SESSIONS.—A noted character, named Hurry Marootee, was yesterday committed by Mr. W. Webb to take his trial at the next Criminal Sessions of the High Court, for attempting to cheat and deceive Hurry Jankoo by selling to him a brass ring as a genuine gold article, and thereby endeavouring to induce the said Hurry Jankoo to deliver to him Rs. 5.

CONVEYING FIREWORKS IN A PASSENGER TRAIN.—Balkristna Nerrayen Goojrir was found guilty by the Railway Magistrate for carrying fireworks of the value of Rs. 22 while a passenger by the Sholapore train, and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 20.

INQUEST.—A Coroner's inquest was held yesterday at H. M.'s Common Jail on view of the body of a prisoner named Babajee Dewjee, who was undergoing a term of three months' hard labour. The verdict was that the death of the deceased was caused by diarrhœa.

DEATH FROM POISON.—A Coroner's inquest was held yesterday at Mody Street, Fort, on view of the body of a Parsee girl aged two years, the grand-daughter of Eduljee Cursetjee. The following verdict was recorded :—"That the death of the deceased was caused by arsenite of copper, which she inadvertently picked up and ate."

STRIKE AMONGST THE BARBERS OF BOMBAY.—Yesterday morning the barbers of Bombay, pursuant to a resolution passed at their meeting held on the Esplanade on Tuesday last, struck work until they hear the reply to their memorial for exemption from the operation of the licence tax. This unreasonable action on their part has occasioned considerable inconvenience to all classes. A native writes as follows in great concern on this subject :—"This morning I sent a servant of mine to call for a barber, but he returned with the sad intelligence that the barbers have made a conspiracy not to shave, on the plea that they are unable to pay the licence tax fee, and until they are made free from it. If this strike of the barbers continues for a week or so, there will be a great uproar in the whole town, and people will be put to great inconvenience by not finding barbers to shave their beards ; so something must be done with them. I think that the Government will not be a great loser if they are exempted from it."

WE understand that the Madrasee Roman Catholic Christians who were placed under an interdict by Bishop Meurin have been re-admitted into communion after paying for their misconduct a penalty of Rs. 160 with which sum it is intended to purchase a life-size image of St. Sebastian for the chapel of these Christians. Their place of worship at Grant Road was re-opened for religious service last Sunday morning.

EUROPEAN AND OTHER EXTRACTS

SUMMARY OF ENGLISH NEWS.

(Oct 5 to 11 inclusive.)

The Queen has appointed Lieut-General H. Ponsonby to be Keeper of the Privy Purse, in succession to the late Sir T. Biddulph.

The Order of the Bath has been conferred upon Mr. F. O. Adams, Secretary of the Embassy in Paris, and upon the Hon. H. C. Vivian, British Agent and Consul-General in Egypt.

Among the speakers upon political subjects during the week Colonel Stanley, at Blackburn, on Wednesday, justified the occupation of Cyprus as a measure of national defence. Colonel Lord-Lindsay and Mr. Walter, M. P., at Maidenhead, expressed approval of the Berlin Treaty, and a hope that the Afghanistan difficulty might be honourably and peacefully settled. Lord Enfield, at the Middlesex Agricultural Society's meeting, approved generally of the Treaty of Berlin, but took exception to the Anglo-Turkish Convention. At Portsmouth, Mr. Cowper-Temple, M. P., declared that the affront offered by the Ameer of Cabul must be atoned for, and he professed confidence in the wisdom of the Indian Government, the valour of our soldiers, and the resources of the Empire to accomplish that end.

Mr. James Caird has left London for India to join the Famine Committee.

The deaths have been recorded this week of Lord Chelmsford, aged 84, Sir F. Grant, President of the Royal Academy, aged 75, and of Mr. Whalley, M. P. for Peterborough, aged 65.

Waterloo-bridge and Charing-cross-bridge, having been purchased by the Metropolitan Board of Works were thrown open to the public, free of toll, on the 8th Oct.

The coroner's inquest in connexion with the loss of the Princess Alice steamer has been continued, and conflicting evidence has been given respecting the sobriety of some of the crew of the Bywell Castle on the occasion of the collision. The total number of bodies that have been recovered is 590, but some 60 persons are still reported to be missing. The mansion house Relief Fund has been closed, the managers being of opinion that the amount already subscribed (upwards of £35,000) will be sufficient to meet all requirements.

The Mansion-house Fund for the relief of sufferers from the Abercarne Colliery Explosion now amounts to £25,000, and further contributions are required.

The coal-owners of Fife and Clackmannan have given notice of a reduction of 10 per cent. in wages, in consequence of the existing depression of trade.

A pleasure-boat was upset on the Avon, near Bath, on Sunday, and two young girls were drowned.

A violent gale raged on the night of the 9th in the English Channel, and it was feared that some accident had occurred to the Eddystone Lighthouse, as no light was visible from Plymouth ; but next morning's telegrams state that the edifice is standing, but communication is prevented by the state of the weather.

A clerk in the Liverpool Branch of the Bank of England has absconded with bank-notes to the amount of £15,000. A reward of £500 has been offered for his apprehension.

A quieter feeling prevails in commercial circles at Glasgow, and it is hoped that the failure of the City of Glasgow Bank may be less disastrous than was at first apprehended.

Business in the open Money-market has been fairly brisk during the week, and as bankers in the face of reported commercial difficulties have been endeavouring to strengthen their resources, borrowers have had some difficulty in getting what they wanted. As regards the stock markets, the home railway department for one or two days was disposed to be rather firmer, but during the rest of the week rumours of impending embarrassments in the manufacturing districts have altered the position of the market, and with the help of a large amount of speculative selling, last night's closing was rather heavy. Foreign bonds have for the most part been dull and closed very flat all round.

The result of the court-martial recently held at Dublin upon Lieutenant Lambert for a breach of military discipline in assaulting Lieutenant Chapman and accusing him of having seduced Mrs. Lambert was made known in Dublin on the 10th. The Commander-in-Chief confirms the acquittal of Lieutenant Lambert, who is released from arrest, but reprimanded for his breach of discipline.

OBITUARY OF THE WEEK.—Col. J. H. Hampton, Ben. Ret.; Lieut.-Col. J. Chambers, Ben. Ret.; H. S. Ravenshaw, late Ben. C. S.; F. B. Elton, late M. C. S.; Lord Chelmsford ; Sir F. Grant ; J. Kay, Q. C.; Mr. Whalley, M. P.; Mr. G. Thompson, late M. P.; G. W. White, C. E., of the Mysore Public Works Department.

Public interest, both at home and throughout Europe, has during the past week been chiefly directed towards India.

The Russian papers, while disclaiming for their Government all responsibility for Shere Ali's hostile attitude towards the British Government, exult in the embarrassment thus created, and declare that, should Afghanistan be annexed to British India, compensation would be sought for by Russia in Kashgar and on the Chinese frontier. Minatory indications of Russian progress in other directions are also given.

In Europe the settlement of the Eastern Question does not proceed in the peaceful manner that was expected. The Austrian troops have virtually obtained possession of Bosnia and Herzegovina, although there are still considerable bodies of insurgent forces in the field. The Russian troops, upon the ground that outrages had been committed upon the Christian population, have re-occupied Tchekmedje and Tchataldja, in close proximity to Constantinople.

The Porte has declined to conclude a Convention with Austria, upon the ground of excesses committed by the Austrian troops in the enforcement of the occupation, but at the same time professes a desire to maintain cordial relations with the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The Russian Commissioner in Roumelia, having declared that his Government will administer that province in accordance with the Treaty of San Stefano and not with the Treaty of Berlin, the other Commissioners have sought instructions from their Governments.

The Russian troops are reported to be constructing lines of railway in Asia Minor between Tiflis, Erivan, Batoum, and Kars.

In France there has been a period of comparative tranquillity, but M. Gambetta has made several addresses in the Eastern Departments proclaiming the permanence of the Republic.

The Italian Government has raised objections to the British and French administration of the Egyptian finances, but explanations have been given that the arrangements made have merely a domestic character.

The resignations of the Hungarian Ministry have been accepted by the Emperor.

From the Cape Colony we learn that military affairs are proceeding satisfactorily, and that the native insurrection is generally suppressed, but in the Transvaal fighting was still going on. The Cape Parliament has been dissolved.

It is reported from New Zealand that five Wesleyan Missionaries have been murdered and eaten by the cannibal natives.

LATEST TELEGRAMS PUBLISHED IN LONDON.

M. GAMBETTA ON THE SENATORIAL ELECTIONS.

Paris, Oct. 11.—M. Gambetta, in his speech at Grenoble yesterday, said:—"The elections for the Senate on the 5th of January next ought to form a new group in that body. Fresh social strata will be returned accompanied by prosperity and morality. The Senate ought to enlighten the nation, a duty which will be performed by the assembly chosen by the municipal councils. When the Senate has been returned it will have to play the part of the great council of the communes of France." M. Gambetta attached great importance to the senatorial elections, and said that of the eighty-four senators to be elected he counted upon the Republicans obtaining a majority of 20 votes. After the 5th of January the former majority will renounce its hopes of regaining power, and then foreign countries will admire a land which will have become wise, industrious, and moral. "The Republic," said the speaker, in conclusion, "will derive considerable benefit from the respect commanded by France, and will have the right to re-assert to the country that she has re-established her former greatness."

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

Constantinople, Oct. 10.—The Russian authorities state that the throng of Mussulman emigrants has necessitated the suspension of the railway service beyond Tchorlou and the retention of rolling stock at Adrianople. General Scobeleff declines to evacuate Burgas and Kirk Kelisse. Prince Lobanoff has represented to the Porte the necessity for stopping the evacuation on account of the massacre of Christians after the departure of the Russian troops. Sir Henry Layard has only been able to discover a few isolated cases, and these were perpetrated by brigands.

The Russians are, it is stated, determined to maintain their administration of Eastern Roumelia during the Russian occupation of Bulgaria.

AUSTRIA AND THE PORTE.

Constantinople, Oct. 10.—The Porte has been informed that the Austrians will not continue their advance. It is believed that the danger of a conflict with Austria has thus been averted.

TURKISH REFORMS.

Constantinople, Oct. 10.—Hobart Pasha had an audience of the Sultan to-day, and was assured by his Majesty that the Porte intended to carry out even more reforms than were demanded by England. Hobart Pasha has also had an interview with Safvet Pasha who explained to him that it was impossible to agree to England's demand for the appointment of European judges in Asia Minor, because they would be unacquainted with Mussulman law. European inspectors attached to the courts of justice would be sufficient for the purpose.

ROUMANIA AND THE BERLIN TREATY.

Bucharest, Oct. 11.—In last night's sitting of the Senate the resolution of the Senatorial Committee authorizing the Government to conform to the provisions of the Treaty of Berlin respecting Roumania was adopted by 43 votes against 8.

BULGARIAN ATROCITIES.

Constantinople, Oct. 10.—Consul Calvert has sent a despatch to Sir Henry Layard reporting atrocities committed by Bulgarians in the neighbourhood of Philippopolis.

AUSTRIAN FINANCE.

Vienna, Oct. 11.—The contract for an advance of 25,000,000 florins in gold was concluded by the Austrian Minister of Finance with a group of banks, consisting of the Austrian Land Credit Association, the Banque de Paris, and the Deutsche Bank.

THE AMERICAN ELECTIONS.

Washington, Oct. 11.—Up to the present the Republicans have elected twenty-two Congress men, the Democrats twenty, and the Nationals three. The Republicans have thus lost eight seats.

ENGLAND AND AFGHANISTAN.

The Anglo-Afghan difficulty still holds its position as the most important subject for discussion at home, and the same remarkable unanimity prevails in all quarters and amongst journals of all shades of opinion as to the course which must be adopted by England in vindication of her outraged honour. The matter was of course discussed at the Cabinet Council on Oct. 5, but nothing is known as to the result of the proceedings.

THE BRITISH PRESS.

The *Times*, remarking upon the observations of the Russian journals on the probable result of the Afghan difficulty, observes that England would gladly see Afghanistan remain independent, provided that its independence were real and its friendship to ourselves even decently well assured.

But the Russian journals may profitably consider the fact that their own Government has done far more than the Ameer himself to convince us of the necessity of new safeguards for the protection of our Indian frontier. Although the Treaty of Berlin has cleared away the clouds, it would be absurd to suppose that so astute a Power has not attempted to make provision for future dangers; and she cannot be surprised at the supposition that the Ameer would not have dared to defy the Indian Government if he had not drawn hope from the presence of the Russian Mission at Cabul. It is quite true that we have no cause of quarrel with Russia, and it would be undignified to complain because she has been able to reach the ear of an ignorant Asiatic Prince. But she will have equally little reason to complain of any consequences that may come from the Ameer's folly. Russians may fancy, perhaps, that the position of England would be weakened if she were compelled to keep order in Afghanistan, because her conquests would then meet those of Russia. We certainly do not court such a junction, and it is not we who shall bear the chief responsibility if it should come about; but at the same time we have no dread of it. When a Russian statesman predicted that the Cossack and the Sepoy would meet on the banks of the Oxus, an English statesman replied that it was not the Sepoy who had reason to fear such a result; and that retort was no empty vaunt. Russia would be at an immense distance from her base of supplies, for her line of railway ends at Orenburg, and between that frontier town and even Tashkend lies a mighty desert, which it takes her troops months to cross. England, having all the resources of the Indian Empire at her back, would be on the spot. Hence Russian soldiers make a grave miscalculation by thinking that they would gain if the dominions of the Czar were to be separated from those of the Queen by a mere river, a mountain chain, or a little strip of desert. Perhaps the consideration of that fact may in time induce them to give good advice to a ruler who must at present be the victim of bad counsel.

The *Morning Post* says the Policy of Russia with reference to the Asiatic "diversion" she has so skilfully contrived appears, so far as can be judged at the present moment, singularly like the policy of Russia in preparing for strife with the Ottoman Empire:—

Afghanistan is meant to be our Servia. The threat of "unofficial" war has been made in the case of Afghanistan as of Servia, and we are menaced with an open declaration also, for if we presume to make an end once for all of Shere Ali and his hostile dynasty, we shall be sure to be confronted by Russia in order to exact securities against our further progress. But all the while Prince Dondoukoff and his compeers will be at work in Turkey. A false step now means incalculable complications and perhaps disasters in the future. It is clear that we must regulate our position definitely with the Czar as well as with the Ameer. It is no use procrastinating. What we shrink from to-day must be dealt with under more difficult conditions to-morrow. We have got plainly and distinctly the cue to the Muscovite designs. We are to be embarrassed in Asia in order to divert us from effective supervision in Europe, and we are to be out-manœuvred in Europe as part of the general plan for the establishment of Russian dominion on the Bosphorus and Russian domination throughout the entire East.

Without attaching too much importance to the utterances of the Russian press upon our Afghan quarrel—utterances which are not less remarkable for the malevolent candour with which they speak of Russia's policy than for the extraordinary ignorance which they display of the character and motives of the English Government in India—it would be idle, the *Standard* asserts, to overlook these indications of the non-official Russian mind at a time when the long-threatened collision between the two Powers in Central Asia seems about to be realised.

The occupation of Afghanistan by the English will be met, we are threatened, by an immediate advance of Russia upon Merv and Balkh, in which case we are told that "the fiction of a neutral country intervening between English and Russian sentinels will cease." That fiction is one of which the authorship belongs not to England but to Russia. It is Russia who a few years ago proposed to establish a neutral zone between her territories and those of England, but the scheme came to nothing, owing to the peculiar notions of neutrality entertained by Prince Gortschakoff. His proposal that Afghanistan itself should be the neutral zone would, if accepted, have permitted Russia to absorb not only the whole territory of Bokhara up to the Oxus, but all Afghan-Turkestan to within a hundred miles of Herat, while England would be restricted from punishing a Wazeeree raid upon her own frontier. A neutral zone, however the lines were drawn, would be an impossibility; and in no case could we consent to include Afghanistan within it, seeing that nearly the whole of the country lies south of the great barrier which nature has drawn in this region and that geographically, as well as politically, it belongs to the system, not of Turkestan, but of India. Russia, by her interference in Afghanistan, in express violation of the pledge given by Prince Gortschakoff of the British Government in Jan. 1874, has revived pretensions which throw us back to the older intrigue and conquest. But then, it is asked, has Russia no right to send her Envoy wherever she pleases? She can do so, of course, if she is willing to take all the responsibilities which the exercise of such a right involves in such a country as Afghanistan. England can also send her Envoys to Bokhara and Khiva. But England has kept to the spirit of the understanding, which excludes these countries from the province of British diplomacy, and it is certainly not too much to ask that Cabul, which is of far nearer interest to us than Bokhara or Khiva can be to Russia, shall be kept free from the presence of Russian agents. In any case, we are equally in our right when we insist that the same privilege shall be conceded to us that has been given to Russia, and when we treat the repulse of our Mission as an indignity which the presence of the Russian Envoy at Cabul renders it absolutely impossible for us to suffer.

The *Daily Telegraph* remarks that the situation upon our Indian frontier was the subject of consideration by Her Majesty's Ministers on Oct. 5, and, since there has been nothing either unexpected or unforeseen in the conjuncture, judicious persons will not look for any abrupt announcement.

As regards the movement of Afghan troops towards the Khyber Pass, it is perhaps intended more to coerce the Khyberees than to intimidate the British commander. The operations preconcerted in view of what has happened will go forward steadily as soon as the considerable distances involved can be traversed by our troops; and, if Shere Ali is relying upon his own strength, and not upon secret promises from a greater Power, events are likely very soon to put before him the alternative of an amende, with serious guarantee, or a conflict. So far there is no reason to complain either of the plans or the firmness of the Indian Government. The imaginative or "lying spirit," however, is again abroad, and unscrupulous imputes all kinds of mad schemes to Lord Lytton, apparently to gratify a wanton appetite for censure, or an inordinate self-conceit. A march on Cabul at this season could only have entered into the mind of a lunatic, and when such a move is described as the Viceroy's policy the allegation betrays a perverse and discreditable animosity.

The *Daily News* would be greatly surprised if it turned out that the policy of the Prime Minister and the Indian Viceroy had no other object than that of teaching the Ameer a lesson in politeness.

We may greatly doubt whether Lord Beaconsfield feels deeply wounded in spirit by the fact that the Ameer declined to receive the visit of our Envoy, or would be perfectly satisfied if Shere Ali said he had made a mistake and was willing to apologise for it. We know that the annexation of Sind was resolved on by our Indian authorities whether the Ameers of that day made acknowledgment of their short-comings or not and the annexation of Sind was accepted although every member of the English Cabinet would gladly have opposed it if there were any way of undoing what had been done. The purpose of the Government in their present policy is, we may be sure, far too ambitious to be satisfied with Shere Ali's saying that he was sorry if he had given offence. The wish for delay which seems to possess so many is probably in some cases at least the result of a conviction that the longer decisive measures are postponed the more comprehensive they must be in the end.

The *Pall Mall Gazette*, in an article entitled "Our true position with regard to Russia," says:—

The intimate connection between Russian diplomacy in general and the Afghan war in particular, and the use that may be made of our Indian difficulties at St. Petersburg and Constantinople, are gradually coming into recognition even where the wish to deny these things is greatest. It is admitted that some of the Russian journals (all Russians it would have been nearer the truth to say) seem to think that the time is nearer for the fulfilment of the prophecy that the Cossack and the Sepoy will meet on the banks of the Oxus. Note is taken of the warning that if we are too successful in Afghanistan it will be necessary for the protection of the Czar's interest to send a Russian force to occupy Merv and Balkh and "then the fiction of a neutral country intervening between the Russian and British sentinel will cease to exist." Nothing is said about the Russian intimation that "by properly calculating our means of harming England in India we may incline her to assume a milder policy regarding the Balkan peninsula;" nor is any notice taken of the assurances repeated every day that at all events we may look for the same sort of unofficial warfare on the side of the Afghans which proved so extremely troublesome to the Turks in Servia. But it is admitted that the Russians do threaten, in the event of an upset in Afghanistan, to restore peace there by the methods which have been found effective to the north of the Oxus, and that, "whatever may happen, Russia will never permit the incorporation of Afghanistan by the English." But what is the comment upon all this? It is said to be "idle vapouring. The truth is, it is idle vapouring to say so. This must be allowed: that when they who threaten have it in their power to carry their threats into execution, and when also they have good or sufficient reasons of their own for carrying out their threats, it is mere folly to disregard the warning. Now it is quite certain that the Russians can, if they please, work heavily against us in Afghanistan with arms, with money, with military advice, with diplomatic promises to any extent; the only doubt is as to how far they have already bestowed on the Ameer these succours and encouragements. And we take it to be certain that should any of the events occur to which our Government look forward as happy ones—*i. e.*, the death of the Ameer, or his deposition, or his complete defeat—the Russians *will* find that the security of their Central Asian territory demands an advance in arms. More, we anticipate that such an advance will be made as soon as the conflict becomes serious, or any considerable change in the state of affairs in Afghanistan appears imminent. Let us never forget that the Russians have everything at stake in those parts, and that they have long had a candidate of their own in hand to succeed Shere Ali, should anything happen to him or to his hold on power. It is the merest stupidity, if it is nothing worse, to teach the country that the Russian threats are idle vapour. There is much in them that is truly formidable; and it is because we feel them to be formidable, and know that the Russians are well aware of their advantages, and believe that our own Government cannot be dull to the tremendous risks which their own misconduct of affairs has brought upon them, that we expect that attempt at a "solution" which we still predict. Our Ministers will try negotiations with Prince Gortschakoff, who is quite ready to be "squared" once more. They are under extreme temptation to do so, and they have already proved that it is a sort of temptation they are not very capable of resisting. They had their chance of paralysing all Russian attempts to worry us in India a few months ago; they had not courage enough to take it, thereby they gave our enemies the whip hand not only on the Indian frontier but in Constantinople, and now we must bear the consequences. There is no escape from them, in one ill shape or another, except by a course of action indefinitely more risky than that which our Government declined—bragging.

THE FOREIGN PRESS.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Berlin Ministerial *Norddeutsche Zeitung*, who reflects the views prevailing in Governmental circles on the Neva, says:—

In the event of an Anglo-Russian war in Europe, General von Kaufman would have occupied Merv and Herat. Russia, regarding Afghanistan as a good buffer between England and herself, has always kept on friendly terms with the Ameer, but never committed the mistake of subsidising an Oriental who deems it an honour to break his word to an infidel. If Shere Ali selected this moment for the beginning of the long planned war, he was probably actuated by the belief that the Indian semi-independent princes, exasperated by the English demand of a reduction of their troops, will mutiny in the rear of the expeditionary corps. Should Shere Ali be beaten and his territory be annexed, Russia will occupy Merv and Balkh, when the fiction of a neutral country intervening between the Russian and British sentinels will cease to exist. To support the mutiny of the Indian princes would be contrary to the principles of Russia, who never encourages rebellion, and moreover, has had quite enough of the one sentimental war in Turkey; while should England be defeated, Russia would require her central Asiatic troops to prevent a Mahomedan revival in her own dominions.

A letter in the *Golos*, dated from Orenburg, the city forming the base for Russian military operations in Central Asia, says:—

The inhabitants of British India at this moment impatiently await the arrival of their Russian liberators. The hope of imminent emancipation from foreign yoke is universal in the country. The English, fearing that the Russian host, bent upon freeing the Hindu race, will thread their way through Afghanistan, are determined to anticipate their adversary and to occupy the passes in advance. Not many years ago the despatch of British agents, to the then independent Khanates of Central Asia was intended to secure the like object. But Capt. Conolly, expelled by the Khan of Khiva, who had no wish to offend Russia, fled to Bokhara, where he was decapitated with Col. Stoddart, another agent who had been despatched to the Khanates. The like fate would have befallen Capt. Abbot in Khiva had he not been saved by Russian officers. After these events, in Nov. 1841, the Afghans rose, killed the British agents, Burnes and Macnaughten, and destroyed an English force of 20,000 men, carrying off 28,000 horses and camels. Since then the Afghans have ever been hostile to England. To-day British policy deems it all important to withdraw the Afghans from the sphere of Russian influence and to place them under the control of a so-called Resident Ambassador. The Russian outposts being only 700 miles distance from the Indian frontier, the possibility of a Russian invasion is constantly apprehended by the frightened Englishmen.

An editorial in the same paper says:—

England is intent upon attacking Afghanistan, imitating Reynard, the fox, when charging the innocent rabbit with beginning the feud, but the world knows the rights of the case, and will not be deceived by these fraudulent tactics.

The *Moscow News* of Oct. 5 says:—

England has intentionally sought a quarrel with the Ameer. For many years Great Britain was contented with her position regarding Afghanistan, when suddenly, as though stung by a gadfly she throws herself upon Shere Ali, with menacing demands to have permanent Residents in Cabul. This, no doubt, has been long ripening. It is a move just like the Anglo-Turkish Convention. They are threads of an extensive intrigue directed from every quarter to entangle Russia. England has failed, however, to arm the Mussulman countries against Russia, and has only succeeded in arming them against herself.

The *St. Petersburg News* of the same date says:—

The mission of General Stolitoff to Affganistan has done us great service, although we know nothing of its success or failure and are even unaware of its object. Beyond doubt our Embassy called forth Chamberlain's pompous Mission and the remarkable *fiasco* which followed the sad fate of the British Mission has disclosed to us the vulnerable point in England's heel and shown better than any other kind of inquiry her strength in India, and to know the strength of one's enemy is the first step towards victory. This knowledge will be of use to us in future dealings with England, and by properly calculating our means of arming her in India we might incline her to assume a milder policy regarding the Balkan Peninsula.

The *Exchange Gazette* of St. Petersburg publishes the following:—

If our constant advance in Central Asia has any fixed object—if we are to derive any real profit from our possessions there, and not allow them to suck our blood and exhaust our treasury for ever—we cannot remain neutral in the Afghan question. The problem as to whether we can protect ourselves against England's pretentions in the East can only be solved in Afghanistan. If the mountain passes continue to be under our influence, our strength in the East will equal that of the English, but if the passes go to England there will be no end to her claims and interference in our Central Asiatic affairs. Afghanistan is the most important strategical point in the whole territory involved in the Eastern dispute, and there we can oppose England most advantageously with every hope of success. We can oblige England to throw her entire resources into a war with Afghanistan—to play the Empire of India and the question of her political rank on one card—whereas war in Afghanistan would require hardly any effort on our part. . . . . It is consequently in our interest not only to afford assistance to the Ameer, but to make his cause our own.

The St. Petersburg *Bourse Gazette*, a paper which was steadily opposed to the Turkish war, now insists upon measures to establish Russian control over the passes of the Hindoo Koosh. We are told:—

If the passes forming the only road from Russia to India are under Russian control, Russian and English power is equally balanced in the East. Afghanistan is the one point where the entire might and influence of England may be effectually resisted and paralysed by Russia. Suppose these passes—the strategical pivot of the Oriental question—become English property, there will be no end to English pretentions. Afghanistan is to be conquered by one of these *coups* which have made India an English dependency. Headed by the *Times* newspaper, the English press is hounding public opinion against the defenceless Ameer. Russia should make the Ameer's cause her own, and by the despatch of a sufficient force render Afghanistan invincible. A small Russian corps would suffice to force England to stake her Asiatic position on the issue of the struggle. For Russia to defend the Ameer is to vindicate her own Imperial interests, an office altogether different from the Quixotic defence of the Slav.

The *Republique Francaise* of Oct. 9 publishes an important article on the Afghan question. It says:—

There can be no doubt that the English Government has resolved to teach Shere Ali a severe lesson. This Afghan Prince has gravely insulted England, and must be punished for it. But what increases the gravity of the fact is that the Ameer, who has never liked the English, has not given vent to his hatred till after the visit of a Russian Mission to his capital. Public opinion in England has been aroused by these two facts and the English see in them, and not without reason, a serious menace to their Indian Empire. From all points of view this Afghan affair was bound to produce a great impression both on the people and Government of Great Britain. First of all there was a premeditated offence to the Envoy of the Viceroy of India, and without desiring to discuss with the adversaries of the Ministry the question whether Lord Lytton took the right means to get the Mission of General Chamberlain accepted at Cabul, we cannot disguise the fact that the discourteous and brutal conduct of the Ameer's officers was absolutely intolerable. Let us not be told that we ought to be indulgent towards half-civilised Orientalists, towards barbarians ignorant of the rules of diplomatic and international civility, and that what would not be borne from a European Government is of no consequence when the insult comes from an Eastern Power. Nowhere more than in an Asiatic Court are forms and ceremonies regarded, and Shere Ali knew perfectly well what he was doing when he prohibited the English Mission from entering his territory. Now it must not be thought that because there are few or no newspapers, telegraphs, or rapid means of publicity or communication in the East the people are not informed. News spreads there with surprising rapidity, and the gossip and talk of the bazaars do the work of the press. If the Ameer of Cabul remained unpunished the *prestige* of England and Asia would soon be diminished, and she would quickly lose her authority over her neighbours, her vassals, and her subjects in India. From this point of view alone the British Government is bound to adopt a policy of action. But there is another and not less powerful motive why England should take up the gauntlet thrown down to her by Shere Ali. The progress of Russia in Central Asia is continual, and little by little the empire of the Czar is extending like a stain of oil over the map of that region. From the valley of the Lower Yaxartes and the Kirghise Steppes Russian domination has reached the rich valley of the Zerafchan, Samarkand has been annexed, and Bokhara placed under a kind of vassalage. Then Khiva came, and the mouths of the Oxus were taken possession of. After this Russia entered the Turcoman Steppes, which extended as far as Mero Korassan, and the neighbourhood of Herat. What the Cossack has done in these steppes, and how far he has pushed his reconnaissances and established his posts is not known. Later on Khokand was annexed, and Russia advance as far as the vast solitude of Pamir, where the routes of her officers got almost entangled with those of English explorers. Finally, topographical missions were sent to the Hissar, the Karaeglione, and the Valley of the Oxus, and a few months ago General Kaufman was preparing to cross that river and encamp at the entrance to Afghanistan. The security of India might be compromised in twenty-four hours, and, thanks to the complicity of the Ameer of Cabul, an army of invasion might suddenly debouch by the defiles of the Soliman mountains into the rich plains of the Indus and the Ganges, in imitation of the great emperors of the middle ages. It is, therefore, of the highest importance that the English Government should be master of the passes which lead to its Indian Empire, whose security can only be obtained at that price. The Cabinet of Lord Beaconsfield appears to have seen this fact from the outset, and the resolutions attributed to it are in conformity with the view thus taken.

THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE CITY OF GLASGOW BANK.

The *Edinburgh Daily Review* remarks, with reference to the list of stockholders of the City of Glasgow Bank, that an examination reveals too plainly that perhaps the majority of the partners will never be able to meet the calls which will have to be made. The subjoined analysis is given as a proof of the extent to which the stock is vested in the hands of poor and dependent people:—

"Of the 1,300 odd shareholders, upwards of 200 are spinsters, with an average holding of £237 each; 154 married ladies and widows, with an average holding of £355. There are 98 executors and 76 trustees, with an average holding respectively of 589 and £1,308. Adding these together, we get 535 out of 1,300 holders of stock who have dealt in it simply as annuitants, and who are not in any proper way the class of shareholders which is fitted to give confidence and stability to a speculative concern.

	£	Average each.
206 Spinsters hold	48,906½	... £237
154 Married women and widows	54,653½	... 355
98 Executors	57,653½	... 589
76 Trustees	99,460	... 1,308
5 Miscellaneous holders ...	900	... 180
8 Teachers	1,950	... 244
62 Tradesmen	20,540	... 331
28 Farmers and feuars	13,389	... 412½
51 Bankers and bank officials...	22,601	... 447
29 Insurance agents, factors, &c.	16,090	... 555
39 Ministers of religion	24,270	... 622
389 Gentlemen holding stock, whose business or profession is not described in the register	253,619	... 652
37 Solicitors and other members of the legal professions ...	28,366	... 766
99 Merchants	92,350	... 932½
24 Medical men	25,220	... 1,050
24 Manufacturers, bleachers, coalmasters, &c. ...	40,678	... 1,679
4 Shipowners and shipbuilders	9,100	... 2,275
10 Papermakers	66,017	... 6,602

(*The Globe.*)

It is a pitiful task to go through the long list of between twelve and thirteen hundred shareholders, a very large proportion of whom are small holders—and, worse still many of them executors and trustees—and to estimate the amount of misery which is sure to be produced. The experience which is said to teach fools does not seem to have much effect upon a credulous and easily-misled public. It might have been supposed that the repeated symptoms of weakness which have been witnessed in connection with the City of Glasgow Bank would at least have prevented trust money from being invested in its shares. But the public, which suffered so much from the collapse in foreign loans a year or two ago, is not proof against a twelve per cent. dividend. Victims present themselves for every fresh disaster long before the last one has been forgotten, and it seems useless to enforce the lessons of ordinary prudence upon the public. Of course, these considerations do not diminish but rather increase the culpability of those who in this instance are responsible for the calamity. In the case under notice the directors must be held to a severe account. It is simply impossible that they should not have known full well that they were playing on the edge of a volcano. The mass of rotten business, their reckless advances to friends and to each other, the abstraction of a large portion of the gold the bank was bound by law to hold against its notes, the illegitimate manner in which market operations were carried on to keep up the prices of the shares, together with very many other incidents to be yet brought to light, must all be strictly investigated in connection with the responsibilities of the directors. We do not attempt to anticipate the result; but we may hope that the sufferings of the unhappy, plundered, and deluded shareholders will not pass unavenged.

Our correspondent at Edinburgh telegraphs:—The question of the City of Glasgow Bank failure was before the meeting of the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce to-day (Oct. 11). The Chamber agreed to ask its directors to report what means could be used to prevent the recurrence of such failures, and whether Government interference in the constitution and audit of joint-stock banks would be desirable. Considerable divergence of opinion was expressed as to whether the City Bank should be resuscitated, and severe strictures were passed on the Glasgow directors.

A Glasgow telegram received this afternoon 11th says:—A large meeting of the City Bank shareholders was held this afternoon, Mr. Craig presiding. Long speeches were delivered, the idea of resuscitating the bank was regarded as hopeless, and the general feeling was favourable to voluntary liquidation as against compulsory liquidation. A committee of ten Glasgow shareholders was appointed to act with the Edinburgh and Aberdeen committees as a general committee, to take such steps as they should think requisite for the general interest of the shareholders.

The managers of the head offices of the banks in Edinburgh have issued a circular to their agents authorizing them to make advances to depositors in the City of Glasgow Bank at the rate of 10s. per pound.

The *Times'* Glasgow correspondent telegraphed on Wednesday night, Oct. 9:—"The feeling in commercial circles has been somewhat disturbed to-day in consequence of rumours current in regard to the position of one or more of the Lancashire banks. Reports of an unfavourable nature are also in circulation concerning certain important local firms. One or two firms which have obtained large advances from the City Bank have been unable to meet their engagements, but no circulars have been issued, as the bank is the chief creditor. Arrangements in connection with the advances to be made to the City Bank depositors have now been completed. The rate at which advances are to be made will vary with the total amount of the account, the rate changing at fixed amounts.

(*Times' City Article.*)

Saturday Evening, Oct 5.

A very decided change for the better was observable in the City to-day. This was due, no doubt, to some extent to the absence of a great number of persons who by their inquiries tend to make matters worse whenever there is a commercial failure of importance. Those who had business to transact to-day were allowed to do it comparatively undisturbed, and there was an absence of the wild rumours which were circulated yesterday. The consequence was a general improvement in the stock-markets and a material recovery in those descriptions which had previously been unduly depressed. There was no renewal of the extra demand for advances experienced by the Bank of England yesterday, and, seeing this, the other banks and dealers generally in money abandoned to some extent the extremely cautious policy they had pursued since Wednesday. The wise course adopted by the Scotch banks in giving all possible assistance to everybody in need and deserving of it in the circumstances in which they are placed is the result of bitter experience, and the lesson learnt by the bankers in the North should not be without effect in this market. It has been observed on this occasion, as well as when former difficulties have arisen, that many London banks are apt to think too much of strengthening their own position and too little of the requirements of others. Nothing tends so much to precipitate a panic in a money-market as for bankers to refuse perfectly undoubted bills which are offered for discount. There is, of course, a limit beyond which a bank cannot go; but by refusing those who apply for accommodation and have first class security to offer, especially in the early stages of financial disquiet, a bank directly brings upon itself what it is its first interest to avoid. A merchant whose bills are refused draws out his deposits, as a matter of course, and probably those of some of his friends. The banking system of Scotland affords facilities now very far beyond what was enjoyed by the rural districts in 1857, a circumstance which, no doubt, was present to the minds of the council of Scotch bankers who had to decide what was to be done in the early part of last week. In about 14 years after the failure of the Western Bank of Scotland the number of branches was about 800, having increased during that period by 252. Consequently, since 1857 the currency of the country has been more and more gathered into banks. During the past six or seven years the expansion has been going on, if not as regards the note issue, it has in other respects, as several branches have been opened in London.

We are glad to be able to state that the position of the City of Glasgow Bank is again better than it was at first thought to be as regards the nature of the assets. The property belonging to the largest debtor, whose liability to the bank is £2,200,000, consists of land in New Zealand of the first quality, valued at £1,300,000, and the balance is covered by wool. We believe we can state that the bank will lose nothing in this case, but the realization will, of course, take time—some few years probably. The Austrian merchants, Messrs. Potter, Wilson and Co., whose inability to meet their engagements has already been announced, are put down for about £160,000. Their assets are said to be very fair, and it is stated that they will be perfectly well able to pay. New Zealand land and wool also cover their engagements. The black spot in this business is the London firm whose name we have already given with their Indian connexions. If it were not for this, the charge, so far as is known, against the managers of the Scotch bank would be to a great extent that of having entered into engagements which were not banking business at all by which they had locked up in land and other things the depositors' and shareholders' money. Many persons think it very strange that the price of the bank's stock could have been maintained at 237 and 238, not far off the market value of Bank of England stock, when the institution had for years enjoyed but doubtful credit. Some explanation of this circumstance will perhaps be forthcoming when it is ascertained of what the reserve fund consists or did formerly consist. The index to a banks' credit in the public market is the price of its stock or shares, and, judging from what has come to light concerning the management, it is feared that the use which is said to have been made of some of the reserve fund is not incorrect. Failing some such support as this having been given to the stock, it is a marvel how the price was maintained.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE TIMES."

Sir,—In your article of this day you refer to the electric light for illuminating purposes and to the difficulty of using it for household purposes. I have just been informed by the American Commissioners that Edison, the inventor of the phonograph, has succeeded in dividing the electric light, so as to apply it to the existing gas fixtures at a considerable reduction in price. Patents are now being applied for.

Yours truly, S. R. TERRAULT.

Paris, Oct 5.

The following description of Mr. Edison's alleged invention is taken from the *New York Sun*:—

"Mr. Edison says that he has discovered how to make electricity a cheap and praticable substitute for illuminating gas. Many scientific men have worked assiduously in that direction, but with little success. A powerful electric light was the result of these experiments, but the problem of its division into many small lights was a puzzler. Gramme, Siemens, Brush, Wallace, and others produced at most ten lights from a single machine, but a single one of them was found to be impracticable for lighting aught save large foundries, mills, and workshops. It has been reserved for Mr. Edison to solve the difficult problem desired. This, he says, he has done within a few days. His experience with the telephone, however, has taught him to be cautious, and he is exerting himself to protect the new scientific marvel, which, he says, will make the use of gas for illumination a thing of the past.

"While on a visit to William Wallace, the electrical machine manufactured in Ansonia, Connecticut, he was shown the lately perfected dynamo-electric machine for transmitting power by electricity. When power is applied to this machine it will not only reproduce it, but will turn it into light. Although said by Edison to be more powerful than any other machine of the kind known, it will divide the light of the electricity produced into but ten separate lights. These being equal in power to 4,000 candles, their impracticability for general purposes is apparent. Each of these lights is in a substantial metal frame, capable of holding in a horizontal position two carbon plates, each 12in. long, 2½in. wide, and ½in. thick. The upper and lower parts of the frame are insulated from each other, and one of the conducting wires is connected with each carbon. In the centre, and above the upper carbon, is an electro-magnet in the circuit, with an armature, by means of which the upper carbon is separated from the lower as far as desired. Wires from the source of electricity are placed in the binding posts. The carbon being together, the circuit is closed, the electro-magnet acts, raising and lowering the upper carbon enough to give a bright light. The light moves towards the opposite end from which it starts, then changes and goes back, always moving towards the place where the carbons are nearest together. If from any cause the light goes out, the circuit is broken, and the electric magnet ceases to act. Instantly the upper magnet falls, the circuit is closed, it relights, and separates the carbon again.

"Edison on returning home after his visit to Ansonia studied and experimented with electric lights. On Friday last his efforts were crowned with success, and the project that has filled the minds of many scientific men for years was developed.

"'I have it now!' he said, on Saturday, while vigorously turning the handle of a Ritche inductive coil in his laboratory at Manlo-park, and singularly enough, I have obtained it through an entirely different process than that from which scientific men have ever sought to secure it. They have all been working in the same groove, and when it is known how I have accomplished my object, everybody will wonder why they have never thought of it—it is so simple. When ten lights have been produced by a single electric machine, it has been thought to be a great triumph of scientific skill. With the process I have just discovered I can produce 1,000—ay, 10,000—from one machine. Indeed the number may be said to be infinite. When the brilliancy and cheapness of the lights are made known to the public—which will be in a few weeks, or just as soon as I can thoroughly protect the process—illumination by carburetted hydrogen gas will be discarded. With 15 or 20 of these dynamo-electric machines recently perfected by Mr. Wallace I can light the entire lower part of New York City, using a 500-horse power engine. I purpose to establish one of these light centres in Nassau-street, whence wires can be run up town as far as the Cooper Institute, down to the Battery, and across to both rivers. These wires must be insulated, and laid in the ground in same manner as gas-pipes. I also propose to utilize the gas burners and chandeliers now in use. In each house I can place a light meter, whence these wires will pass through the house, tapping small metallic contrivances that may be placed over each burner. Then housekeepers may turn off their gas and send the meters back to the companies whence they came. Whenever it is desired to light a jet it will only be necessary to touch a little spring near it. No matches are required.

"'Again, the same wire that brings the light to you,' Mr Edison continued, 'will also bring power and heat. With the power you can run an elevator, a sewing machine or any other mechanical contrivance that requires a motor, and by means of the heat you may cook your food. To utilize the heat, it will only be necessary to have the ovens or stoves properly arranged for its reception. This can be done at trifling cost. The dynamo-electric machine, called a telemachon, and which has already been described, may be run by water or steam power at a distance. When used in a large city the machine would of necessity be run by steam power. I have computed the relative cost of the light, power, and heat generated by the electricity transmitted to the telemachon to be but a fraction of the cost where obtained in the ordinary way. By a battery or steam-power it is 46 times cheaper, and by water power probably 95 per cent. cheaper.'

"It has been computed that by Edison's process the same amount of light that is given by 1,000 cubic feet of the carburetted hydrogen gas now used in this way, and for which from dollrs. 2·50 to dollrs. 3 is paid, may be obtained for from 12 to 15 cents. Edison will soon give a public exhibition of his new invention."

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LORD BEACONSFIELD justly stated the other day that the health of the people is really the foundation upon which all their happiness and power as a State depend. For the most practical mode of preventing disease and premature death use

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SUPPLEMENT TO

The Bombay Gazette.

BOMBAY :—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1878.

RUSSIAN POLICY.

(*Times' Correspondent.*)

BERLIN, Oct, 8.

Two uncommonly important articles on Eastern affairs have appeared on the same day in the St. Petersburg *Golos*. I begin with the Afghanistan effusion :—

"According to the latest telegrams, a first exchange of opinion has already passed between London and St. Petersburg upon Afghan affairs. The English Charge d'Affaires has asked the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs in what way the mission of General Stoletoff can be reconciled with the obligation undertaken by Russia to refrain from seeking political influence in Afghanistan. The answer is stated to have been that General Stoletoff's mission was determined upon in circumstances which no longer exist, and that the exclusive object of the embassy, moreover, was to pay a compliment to the Ameer. In our opinion, if the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs had really given some such reply to the British Government, the answer did not refer to the refusal of the Ameer to receive Sir Neville Chamberlain. Logic and the rules of diplomatic intercourse forbid us to entertain any such idea. The English Charge d'Affaires cannot have been commissioned to put such a question at a moment when the English Ambassador was on his way to this capital. Lord Koftus left London almost immediately after the arrival of the Ali Musjid news. On his way he saw the Russian Chancellor, and, of course, discussed with him Afghan affairs. At that particular moment the Charge d'Affaires cannot have been ordered to put questions at St. Petersburg. Such being the case, and taking into account tha[illegible] is signified in the telegram touching the inq[illegible] British Government, it follows that the question must have been asked at the time when the reception given to the Russian Embassy at Cabul first became known in Europe. It is important to fix the date of the event in this way. After what has happened, it is altogether impossible to admit that the Russian Government can have returned such an answer to such a query now. No Russian Government could have adopted an apologetic tone when the step concerning which an explanation was demanded had been previously stigmatized as hostile by the English Government and Press. Russia has been openly charged in England with instigating the Ameer of Afghanistan to make war against Great Britain. How, then, could the Russian Government have brought themselves to vouchsafe a declaration bordering upon excuse? An answer in this strain has not been given, nor ever will be. Should the English Government desire us to account for the affront they have sustained at the hands of the Ameer, a reference to the attitude of the English Government before and during the war of 1877 will be all the reply granted. But surely no such reprimand will be torn from us. Only a few days ago *The Times* stated that England was at peace with Russia, and that it was to the interest of both countries to maintain neutral relations. In all probability this will be the motto adhered to by British diplomacy. British diplomats cannot but foresee that should they ever presume to question us upon matters connected with Afghanistan, we should be obliged to retort in a style which it would not be very pleasant for them to have to publish in a Blue-book."

The above is an *avis au lecteur* which speaks for itself. There can be little doubt that the Russian Government, having directly or indirectly encouraged the Ameer of Afghanistan to take a step calculated to involve him in war with England, now stand upon their dignity and refuse official allusion to the subject. Private conversation between Excellencies may be held, and even provoked, but these do not count.

The other article, turning upon the relations between Russia and Turkey, is perhaps even more interesting :—

"Besides the Afghan difficulty, the symptom of a definite crisis in Central Asiatic affairs, the great question of the day is the *rapprochement* between Russia and Turkey. It may be remembered that even in the midst of the war, when excitement was at its highest pitch we attributed to the Ottoman race certain commendable qualities required for the prolonged maintenance of their rule over subject races. We did so at the risk of being denounced as Turcophils by those who dreamt of achieving victory by despising the enemy. At present when a change has supervened and our late enemy is about to sign a treaty which makes him if not actually our ally at least our 'friend in perpetuity,' the question arises what we are to think of the Turks and of their former and present bearing towards us. Recalling to mind the savage enthusiasm with which war to the knife was preached against us, we are tempted to think that we had better expel the Osmanli race from Europe; while if present friendly assurances are sincere we cannot but wonder at the sudden evaporation of the bitter and revengeful spirit displayed during the war. In endeavouring to reconcile this apparent contradiction, we ought to bear in mind that there are no sudden leaps in the history and character of nations. There is ample evidence that the atrocities which made some denounce the Ottomans as so many unreclaimable savages, were a frequent yet transient phenomenon, brought on by circumstances. Though displaying the defective political organization of Turkey, these atrocities by no means prove the entire race cannibals. The Osmanlis, after all, have shown themselves competent to vindicate the rights of the conqueror, and a people possessed of other qualities likewise. When our armies were liberating the subject races they had sufficient opportunity to become convinced that though the rayah had no political rights, they were very well off indeed in point of property and finance. The tens of thousands of Turkish prisoners, too, who have been sojourning in Russia for so many months have convinced our people that, far from being savages, the Osmanlis are willing and industrious, though not very expert at work. The Osmanlis in their turn, thanks to the prolonged presence of our troops under the walls of Constantinople, and the accounts given by Ottoman soldiers returning from captivity, have learned something about the Russian people. Direct contact, notwithstanding the acrimony raised by vain-glorious and narrow-minded talkers, has not only diminished the painful impression created by rayah sufferings, but has also produced in both nations a favourable disposition towards each other. When we began to respect the Turkish army as a worthy adversary, we made the first step towards modifying our views of the Turkish people; and at present it is impossible not to admit that our returning soldiers speak much more of the wealth they have seen in Turkey than of the barbarism of the Turks. It is very likely that we shall learn to think yet better of the Turks, now that our Slavonic co-religionists in the Ottoman Empire are admitted to an equality of rights with the Mussulmans. This spontaneous awakening of a friendly disposition between Turk and Russ is one of the most important results of the war, and if turned to account by diplomacy may secure the pacific solution of the Oriental question, to the mutual advantage of both parties. Those political robbers of Europe who count upon dividing the inheritance of the Porte are entirely mistaken as to the enduring importance of recent changes. Referring as they do the Anglo-Turkish *rapprochement* to a mere dipomatic combination, which, created by the exigencies of the moment, must be evanescents, they yet cannot help feeling some considerable uneasiness about the good relations springing up between the Russain and Turkish Governments. It is just possible that our late enemy may shortly become our only ally, and a near future will demonstrate whether we are wise enough to effect this result.

"As to the Afghan question we have the fact that while our own Embassy to Cabul has been perfectly successful, the English misson has been treated with open hostility by the Ameer. Russia, it is well known, forced by the pressure of her political destiny and the necessities of her geographical situation, since she first rose into existence, has been compelled to extend her Asiatic frontiers. Annexation after annexation has occurred, for Imperial purposes. The real significance of this policy will be seen in the future, while the present requires only continual sacrifice. Whatever the future may bring, present sacrifices, though of no great magnitude in themselves, are oppressive because our means are limited, and because we have economical problems nearer home requiring our immediate attention. That the early solution of these problems is indispensable, not only to develope our wealth, but to supply our daily wants, renders the expenditure involved in our Asiatic policy the more onerous. Another drawback to our Asiatic doings is that while our great aims can only be realized in the future, one immediate result is to diminish the population of Russia Proper, already so thin, by emigration to the far East.

"However, if the direct interests of the Russian people, whose taxes have to support these diplomatic doings, have nothing in common with Afghanistan, there is the fact that England, hostile to Russia, may by an Afghan war have her action diverted from Asia Minor and the Balkan to Cabul. What we can lose in these troubles in Central Asia is insignificant, while to England any Indian complication is simply a question of life and death. Russia being thus advantageously placed, she will no doubt profit by her Asiatic opportunities to paralyze England's policy in Europe. This does not, of course, mean that the principal burden of the strife will have to be borne by Central Asia. To transfer the feud to Asia would be unprofitable and inconvenient to us. It would impose upon us immense sacrifices and yet settle nothing."

To add anything to these comprehensive avowals is as unnecessary as it is impossible. They are neither more nor less than a condensed retrospect of the past, and a stereoscopic shadowing forth of the future. The rayahs, said to be the daily sport of Turkish assassins and thieves, were found to be so very well off as to astonish the poor Moujike sent to deliver them. The atrocities once declared a proof of the inveterate savagery of the unspeakable Turk are now represented as a desperate means to repress rebellion adopted by a warlike, hard-bested race, fighting for life. After these admissions as regards the past, we have the cool statement that the Turk, being recognized as a respectable fellow by the suddenly-illumined Russ, every effort is made to convert him into the ally of his late would-be exterminator. The means used, as we know from other sources, is to represent to the successor of the Caliph that, having satisfied Russia in Europe, there is no occasion for him to be at the expense and trouble of obliging England in Asia. This much being done to deprive England of her European ally, we are further treated to the avowal that to cripple British action in Europe entirely an Afghan complication is purposely got up by sagacious diplomatists on the Neva. And, as if all this were not enough to unveil the momentous objects pursued, this suite of confessions is closed by the remark that Russia has a destiny to work out in Asia which, unfulfilled after centuries of annexation, will only show its true bearing when in the future fresh events happen. For the present, it is significantly added, Russia is not in a position to wish to fight England chiefly in Asia. Indeed, if her business can be done by the Ameer in Asia and the Sultan in Europe why need she fight at all?

The *Golos* is one of the most discreet and best-edited papers of the Russian Empire. Unlike some other organs it is not given to indulge in speculative boastings while events are maturing and the issue doubtful. The Turkish alliance is suddenly advocated along the whole line of the Russian Press. It is almost superfluous to observe that the move is accompanied with attacks upon Austria. If the Sultan can be led to see things from the Russian point of view, the national Slavonic armoury may once more be made available for weapons against Austrian competition.

EARL GREY ON THE DIFFICULTY.

EARL GREY sends a long letter to the *Times*, in which he discusses the questions raised in Lord Lawrence's letter —first, "Has Shere Ali, by forcibly stopping the Mission sent to him by the Viceroy, given just grounds for war with him?" and, secondly, "Supposing the right to be established, is there any such advantage to be gained by war as to make it expedient to undertake it?"—

With regard to the first question (says his lordship), I am not aware that in all that has been said and written on the subject any attempt has been made to explain upon what grounds it can be maintained (as those who take the warlike side in the discussion seem to assume) that Shere Ali, though the ruler of an independent State, had not a right to decline to receive the Mission which the Governor-General of India proposed to send to him. I believe the right of every independent nation to refuse to receive an Envoy from another has never been questioned; and Lord Lawrence has shown that in the case of Afghanistan so long ago as 1857 this right was exercised by its then ruler with our assent, and has again been exercised, with the same assent on our part, by the present Ameer from 1869 to the present time. How, then, can the refusal to admit our Envoy be regarded as giving us any right of making war upon the Afghans? Nor is the case altered by what is called the insulting manner in which the Mission was stopped, or by the fact that the Ameer has thought fit to receive an Envoy from Russia while he rejected ours. For the insult the Viceroy has only himself to thank. He thought fit to send forward his Envoy with a formidable escort, without waiting for the Ameer's answer to the letter (which, to say the least of it, was not a courteous one) which announced the Mission. Sir N. Chamberlain, on reaching the frontier, made known his arrival to the Ameer's officer in a letter still more wanting in courtesy, and distinctly intimating his intention of advancing with or without permission. This left to the Afghan officer only the choice of allowing the Mission to proceed contrary to the orders of the Ameer, or of telling the Envoy, as he did, that his advance would be opposed by force. Nor does the fact that a Russian Envoy had been received at Cabul give any just ground of quarrel to the Indian Government against the Ameer. It is asserted that the Russian Mission was not sent to Cabul in any spirit of hostility to us, and we cannot disprove the assertion, though I am not more disposed to give credit to it than yourself. But even if the object of the Mission were not a mere matter of suspicion, and if it had been avowedly sent as a measure of precaution against the extension of British power in Asia, it would have been quite within the clear right of both Russia and Afghanistan to enter into communication with each other for this purpose. Who can contest the right of these States to enter into a defensive alliance for this object if they think fit to do so; or who can deny that the conduct of the Indian Government for some time past has been well calculated to create in the mind of the Ameer a strong impression that if he desires to preserve a real independence, and not to be reduced to the position of a vassal of the Anglo-Indian Government, like the Indian princes, it is necessary for him to repel every advance on the part of that Government towards establishing its authority over him, and also to look out for the best support he can find in his resistance to it? I am by no means surprised that in the position in which he is placed, and looking to the language notoriously held in India, the Ameer should have been led to think that his wisest policy is to cultivate the friendship of Russia. This is the lesson we have been doing our best to teach him, and we have no right to complain that he has learnt it, or that he should now, in consequence, be pursuing the policy he thinks best for his own interest. So long as he abstains from aggression or menace of aggression against us, we are not entitled to interfere with him or to insist that he shall be friendly to us rather than to Russia merely because he rules over a territory which in former times has been made the road for attacks upon India. Unless, therefore, it can be shown that an offensive alliance or hostile measures against the Anglo-Indian Government were contemplated by the Ameer and by Russia, we have no right whatever to make war upon either on account of what has lately occurred.

It is desirable also to consider the second question raised by Lord Lawrence—Has this country anything to gain by going to war with the Ameer of it can be made out that we have just grounds of quarrel with him? The main object of going to war (if I rightly understand what has been urged in favour of that course) would be to increase the security of our Indian Empire by preventing Russian influence from being so established in Afghanistan that at some future time an attack might be made upon India by the Russians combined with the Afghans. I will not stop to inquire if there is any danger of such an attack being ever made (which, for my own part, I altogether disbelieve); but, assuming the danger to be a real one, would invading Afghanistan be calculated to avert it? Lord Lawrence thinks not, and I am at a loss to guess how what he says in support of that opinion can be answered. A sufficient force under British officers would, no doubt, be able to force its way through the passes and to capture Cabul and the other Afghan cities and fortresses, killing in these operations many of the Afghans, and of necessity laying waste much of their territory and destroying a great deal of their property. But certainly this would not tend to make the Ameer and his followers more friendly to us than they now are; on the contrary, it could only make their hostility far more bitter than it is. It is, indeed, not impossible that in this manner a treaty might be extorted from Shere Ali binding him to dismiss the Russian Envoy and to enter into no further communication with Russia, but to become our ally and give us his assistance if there should be war between Russia and ourselves. Such a treaty might perhaps be extorted; but nobody can be simple enough to suppose that it would be observed a moment longer than it could be enforced, or to doubt that, in spite of any promises to the contrary, the Ameer would find means of communicating with the Russian authorities, and that his great object would be to concert with them measures for revenging himself for the injuries he had sustained. Our position, therefore, so far as regards our prospect of having the Afghans on our side, instead of on that of Russia, in any contest which may take place between us, would be injured instead of being improved by the most successful war if Shere Ali were allowed to continue to be ruler of Afghanistan. Perhaps it may be suggested that this difficulty might be obviated by effecting a change of rulers in Afghanistan, and placing power in the hands of one more friendly to us than Shere Ali; but such a scheme will find no favour from those who know anything of Indian history and of the utter failure of the same scheme when Dost Mahomed was deposed and our puppet Shah Shujah set up in his place. To resort again to such a device would be even worse than to resolve avowedly to annex Afghanistan—that is to say, to take upon ourselves the task of governing a poor and mountainous territory, having a long and difficult line of communication with the seat of our power, and inhabited by a warlike and turbulent population, which we could only rule by force, and which never could be made to pay a tithe of the cost of keeping it in subjection. The impolicy of such an annexation appears to me so obvious that I will not waste time in trying to prove it.

Even, therefore, if the invasion of Afghanistan should meet with the greatest possible success by compelling Shere Ali to submit to whatever terms the Governor-General of India might think fit to dictate, no real advantage that I see would be gained. But things might more probably take a different course. It may be expected that a British army would, without much difficulty, overcome any force the Afghans could oppose to it, and would capture Cabul and whatever fortresses they possess; but Shere Ali might neither be taken nor frightened into submission. He might retreat before us beyond the boundaries of his dominions with as many armed followers as he might be able to keep together, leaving the rest to profess submission until another opportunity of taking arms against us should arise. If this should happen, it is clear that our troops could follow him but a little way, if at all, beyond the Afghan frontier, and must before long retire. But as soon as our pursuit ceased, the Afghans would follow upon our heels, and carry on a guerilla warfare against us, harassing us without ceasing, and striving to cut off our supplies. They would have the whole population helping them—every peasant when ploughing his fields would have his gun concealed hard by, ready to be used whenever an opportunity offered. They would have, too, the aid of many wild and warlike tribes even from a long distance, as well as the underhand, if not the open assistance of the Russians, who would furnish them with arms and ammunition and officers to direct their efforts. The Anglo-Indian army would find that, though it had to meet no enemy able to stand against it in the field it could command only so much of the territory as it could actually cover, while it would be able to draw from it little of revenue or supplies, and every convoy would have to be defended by a strong escort and to fight its way through the long and difficult marches from the Indus. No skill in diplomacy and no payment of black mail, however large, paid to the hill tribes, which have already given us so much trouble on our frontier, would induce them to forego the temptation of often trying to lay hands on the rich plunder our convoys would place before their longing eyes. In such a warfare blood would be spilt like water, and money would be spent by millions. Even if we met with no serious check—and our good fortune would indeed be great if none should occur—a contest like this could hardly be continued very long. The English taxpayers would neither be so foolish as themselves to endure so heavy a charge, nor so unjust as to impose it on India. Sooner or later, therefore—probably in two or three years at the farthest—we should be compelled to retire from the country. Shere Ali would resume possession of his dominions with all the popularity of success, and animated with the bitterest hostility to us.

I am far from denying that we shall sustain real damage to our reputation if, after all that has been said and done, the rejection of our Envoy should be passed over without resenting it. But I contend that this damage would be a trifle in comparison with the evil of waging an unjust war, and with that which would result from its possible ultimate failure. It would be far better to submit to the insult we have brought upon ourselves by the mistaken policy we have of late pursued with regard to Afghanistan than that we should make another step in the same unwise course with the vain hope of regaining what we have lost by the errors we have committed.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE following Report for the year 1877-78 will be presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce to be held to-day :—

REPORT.

Your Committee have now the honour to report to the Members of the Chamber on the principal topics which have engaged their attention during the official year just closed.

TOWN DUTIES LEVIED BY THE BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY.

The introduction of the bill entitled, "A Bill to amend the Bombay Municipal Act of 1872, and to continue the same as so amended," into the Council of the Governor of Bombay for making laws and regulations, afforded His Excellency the Governor in Council an opportunity to give legal effect to the principles and rules of Municipal taxation enunciated by the Government of India in its Resolutions of November 1868, January 1871, and September 1877, the adoption of which in the municipalities of this Presidency had been so long advocated by the Chamber; and your Committee therefore submitted the whole subject to His Excellency, concluding with a request that the sections in the new Bill, which related to the levying of town duties, and to the refunds of town duties paid, should be made to conform to these Resolutions.

The questions upon which your Committee, in this representation, addressed His Excellency were :—(1) the articles which, under section 114 of the Bombay Municipal Act of 1872, were subject to town duty; and (2) the provisions with respect to refund under section 120 of the same Act.

In regard to articles on which town duties might be leviable, your Committee, in accordance with the Chamber's letter to Government, dated 26th October 1875 (See Annual Report of the Chamber for 1874-75, page 415), approved of the rules laid down by the Government of India in its Resolution of November 1868 aforesaid, and which the Governor-General in Council requested should not be deviated from without the previous sanction of the Government of India. These rules were :—

I. That subject to the limitations contained in Rule II., no Town Duty or Cess under any name should be levied by any Municipal body on any commodity not included in the following list, viz. :—
  (1) Articles of food or drink for men or animals.
  (2) Animals for slaughter.
  (3) Articles used for fuel, for lighting or for washing.
  (4) Articles used in the construction of Buildings.
  (5) Drugs, gums, spices, and perfumes.
  (6) Tobacco.

II. That no such duty should be levied on any of the following articles, viz. :—
  (1) Articles liable to Customs duty and imported into India by sea.
  (2) Salt.
  (3) Opium,
  (4) Fermented or spirituous liquors manufactured in India, and drugs liable to Excise or Abkaree duty; and

III. That no such duty should be levied, except on things brought into a town for actual use or consumption therein.

By the subsequent orders of the Government of India of the 6th January 1871, the following classes of commodities were added to the list of articles subject to the levy of octroi duties :—

(1) Piece goods and other textile fabrics and manufactured articles of clothing and dress.
(2) Metals and articles of metal

subject, however, to this proviso, that the duty on them did not exceed 1½ per cent. *ad valorem*. But in all other respects the rules prescribed in the Resolution of November 1868 were re-affirmed in 1871, and again in the letter addressed by the Government of India to the subordinate Governments in September 1877.

The select Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to report upon the Bill recommended that metals and jagree should be omitted from the articles on which town duties were levied; the annual revenue derived by the Municipality from these articles was Rs. 37,848, and Rs. 11,000 respectively. Your Committee also urged that the article "timber," upon which a duty at the rate of 2½ per cent. on the market value was levied, should be omitted; the revenue derived from this article was Rs. 41,279. On the other hand, they entirely approved of the proposal to insert "firewood" in the schedule of articles upon which town duties were leviable, and to levy upon it a duty of 2 annas per candy, which, it was estimated, would produce nearly 1 lac of rupees. By the changes thus recommended, there would be a clear gain to the Municipality of about Rs. 10,000 a year. The other articles entered in the schedule were grain of all sorts, ghee, wines and spirits, beer, and sugar including molasses and goor; but, although the three last named were subject to customs duty, your Committee had no remarks to offer upon them, provided a simple system of refunds, free from all objectionable limitations and restrictions, was established.

The limitations and restrictions with respect to refunds of town duties paid had operated with great hardship and injustice, and numerous complaints respecting them had been made to the Chamber. Under Rule III., in the Resolution of the Government of India of November 1868, it was ordered that no town duty should be leviable except on things brought into a town for actual use and consumption therein, and in para. 4 of the letter of the Government of India of September 1877 (See Annual Report for 1876-77, page 308), no limit of time was fixed within which refunds were to be granted. Your committee therefore recommended that the provision in the Act which limited the granting of refunds to articles exported within six months from the date of importation should be repealed, as being an unnecessary hardship to importers; but, if His Excellency considered it desirable that some limit should be fixed, they trusted that the period for the granting of a refund should be extended to at least two years from the date of the importation of the article, which was the period allowed under section 137 of the Consolidated Customs Act, No. VI. of 1863, within which drawback on dutiable goods might be claimed. They also recommended that the limit of refund claimable should be reduced to Rs. 2; further, that a clause should be added to the section in the new Bill relating to refunds to the effect that refunds amounting in all to Rs. 2 or upwards should be claimable on goods, whether of the same or different descriptions exported on the same or on different dates during thirty days from the date of the first exportation, and whether consigned to the same or different persons or places.

The extent to which the system of withholding refunds of town duties paid was carried by the Bombay Municipality might be gathered from Mr. Ryan's report of the 2nd December 1875, in the correspondence appended to the Chamber's representation of the 18th December 1877. In para. 3, he stated that, in his opinion, if the minimum amount of refund claimable were reduced from Rs. 10 to Rs. 4, which the Chamber at that time had recommended, the Municipality would lose more than half of their income from town dues. Now in the Budget of the Town Council, the estimated income from town duties in 1878 was Rs. 5,62,000, and the cost of collection Rs. 28,300, leaving a net income of Rs. 5,33,700, half of which was Rs. 2,66,850.

The Bill, however, passed the Bombay Legislative Council without any of the recommendations of your Committee being adopted, except the comparatively unimportant one that Government should resume the right of sanctioning all rules under which refunds were granted; but the Chamber would be glad to observe that the limit of refund was reduced from Rs. 10 Rs. 5. Your Committee therefore addressed a memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General, forwarding a copy of the representation made to the Government of Bombay, and praying that the sections in the new Bill which related to the levying of town duties, and refunds of town duties paid, should be made to conform to the principles and rules of municipal taxation prescribed by the Government of India in its Resolutions abovementioned, and that the Bill be sent back to the Legislative Council of the Governor of Bombay to be amended accordingly. But the Bill, as it passed the Local Council, was finally sanctioned by His Excellency the Governor-General on the 19th June 1878.

ON THE SYSTEM OF DISTRICT MUNICIPAL TAXATION IN THIS PRESIDENCY, AND THE EXPEDIENCY OF INTRODUCING INTO THE BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AN AMENDED DISTRICT MUNICIPAL BILL.

It will be remembered that, on the 26th of October 1875, the Committee, who then held office, addressed the Government of Bombay on the subject of district municipal taxation, and submitted at the same time a statement showing the revenue of a few of the more important of the Mofussil municipalities, the amount of revenue which each derived from town duties, the principal articles of general commerce on which town duties were levied, and the rules and restrictions in respect to the granting of refunds which, in their operation, practically converted the town into transit duties. The Committee concluded their address with a request that the system of taxation in the city and town municipalities of this Presidency should be made to conform to the principles and rules of municipal taxation laid down by the Government of India; but their request was not complied with; and another representation on the same subject made to the same Government on the 28th of June 1876, was alike unsuccessful.

The principles and rules of municipal taxation prescribed by the Government of India in its Resolutions of November 1868, and of January 1871, were reaffirmed in a letter addressed by the Government of India to subordinate Governments in September 1877. The subject was discussed at the last Annual General Meeting of the Chamber, and, in consequence of that discussion, your Committee felt it incumbent on them once more to submit the whole subject to Government, which they did on the 14th of March, expressing their hope at the same time that the necessary measures would as soon as practicable be taken by His Excellency to introduce and establish on an effectual and permanent footing throughout the Presidency the excellent system of municipal taxation laid down by the Government of India.

From the letter of the Government of India to the Government of Bombay, dated Simla, 16th November 1877 (See Annual Report of the Chamber 1876-77, page 317), the Chamber would have learned with much satisfaction that the Government of India, after enquiry into the complaints of the Chamber, considered that municipal taxation in several towns in the Bombay Presidency was not on a sound footing, and that rules with respect to the granting of refunds did exist which justified the objections entertained to them by the Chamber, and that they had issued the following orders :—(1) That at Kurrachee, arrangements be made to prevent any duty whatever being levied, under the name of octroi or otherwise, on any portion of the grain or any other article exported, and that this order take effect after the 31st December 1877; (2) that, at Broach, the transit duty of six annas on cotton carts, four annas on entry, and two annas on exit, be abolished; (3) that, at Ahmedabad and Surat, the town duties on yarn, which were respectively Rs. 2 and Re. 1 per Indian maund, on yarn other than hand-spun, and Rs. 2-8 and Rs. 1-4 on dyed yarn, be discontinued altogether.

These, however, were only a few of the more conspicuous instances pointed out by the Chamber of duties, under the name of octroi, levied contrary to the acknowledged principles. Such duties were levied on almost every article which, whether intended for consumption or sale, or for transmission to other places, entered the limits of nearly every city and town municipality throughout the Presidency. With the exception of piece-goods and metals, and of those articles specified in Rule II of the Resolution of November 1868, it was ordered that all articles which had borne customs duty should be exempt from municipal taxation, but these articles were, in common with all others, again systematically subjected to local taxation on entering a district municipality, in total disregard of the orders of the Gvernment of India. It is, your Committee believe, universally accepted that the great principles of an octroi duty are that it should be small, and that it should never be allowed to operate as a transit duty. Yet in many instances, whether the articles had already borne customs duty or not, the taxes levied, under the name of octroi, by district municipalities, were excessive, while the refusal to grant refunds, when the articles were re-exported, or the limitations or restrictons imposed on the granting of refunds, had the effect of converting the town duties paid into transit duties. Numerous illustrations were given by your Committee of duties which were much too high, and of the rules relating to refunds adopted by many of the municipalities, some of these allowing no refunds whatever, while the rules adopted by others were either so illiberal or so stringent as to render it almost impossible to obtain a refund.

In para. 14 of the letter of the Government of India to the Government of Bombay, dated Simla, 16th November 1877, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council desired that if under any existing law, there was legal difficulty in carrying out the orders of the Government of India, the necessary steps for amending such law should be promptly taken by His Excellency the Governor of Bombay. It appeared to your Committee that the only effectual way of carrying out these orders, and of putting a stop to the present objectionable system of raising municipal revenue in the cities and towns of this Presidency, was to introduce an amended District Municipal Bill, in which the discretionary powers vested in the muncipalities of levying taxes on any article, and of passing rules imposing restrictions on the granting of refunds, should be abolished, and a list of the articles on which town duties might be leviable, and the rules relating to the granting and limitation of refunds, inserted. A suggestion to this effect made by Mr. Bythell was favourably received by the Chamber, in general meeting assembled, on the 5th of January 1875.

Your Committee therefore prayed that His Excellency would take measures to introduce on an early day into the Legislative Council of the Governor such a Bill, from which paragraph (*e*) of clause 2, of section 14, of the present Act No. VI. of 1873, which related to the preparation of rules regarding the taxes, tolls, or other imposts to be levied, together with the times and mode of collection of the same, and section 21, which related to the imposition of taxes, tolls, or other imposts, would be omitted, and sections to the following effect inserted in the Bill :—

I. Duties at the rates specified in the Schedule A annexed to this Act shall be leviable in respect of the several articles therein mentioned when imported from any place into any municipality constituted under this Act.
   The said duties shall be called town duties, and it shall not be lawful for any city or town municipality to farm such duties, or to levy town duties in excess of the rates so fixed, or to impose the same in respect of any other articles than those liable to town duties under this Act.

II. It shall not be lawful for any city or town municipality to levy any duty, tax, toll, or other impost, or any other article imported into a municipality, or on any article exported therefrom.

III. The said town duties shall be payable on demand, and shall be levied and collected by, and under the management of, the municipality. Provided that it shall be lawful for a municipality, with the sanction of the Governor in Council, to make such arrangements as in their discretion they may deem fit with any Railway Company for the levy and collection of town duties under this Act.

IV. (*a.*) When any of the articles upon which town duties shall have been paid shall be exported, the full amount of town duties shall under such rules as the municipality—with the sanction of the Governor in Council, notified in the *Bombay Government Gazette* one month previously to the same being enforced—be repaid as refund, provided that the articles be exported within two years from the date of importation, and that application for such refund be made within one month from the date of exportation; and provided also that refunds, except on goods brought into a municipality for transmission to other places, shall not be claimable of less amount than two rupees as next herein provided.

(*b.*) The full amount of Town Duty paid on an article brought into a municipality for transmission to other places shall, on the exportation of the article, be refunded. On articles brought into a municipality for consumption or sale, and subsequently exported, refunds amounting in all to rupees two or upwards shall be claimable on goods, whether of the same or different descriptions, exported on the same date, or on different dates during thirty days, from the date of the first exportation, and whether consigned to the same or different persons or places.

(*c.*) A claim to refund shall not be affected by reason of the goods having changed owners since they were imported into the municipality, nor by reason of the goods having broken bulk and a part having been sold, in which case refund shall be claimable in respect of the remaining part on exportation. Nor shall it be necessary to establish the identity of the goods with those which have paid town duty whether the goods have, or have not, broken bulk, nor to produce any other than reasonable proofs to satisfy the municiplity that the articles have paid town duty and are entitled under the provisions of this Act to refund on exportation.

V. Tables of the town duties leviable under this Act, and copies of any rule in force relating to the granting of refunds, shall be printed in English and in the Vernacular languages of the district, and shall be kept hung up in a conspicuous position at the Railway Stations or other places where the town duties are collected by the municipality.

In conclusion, your Committee expressed the gratitude with which the Chamber had received the letter addressed by the Government of India to subordinate Governments in September 1877, and the letter addressed by the Government of India to the Government of Bombay, dated Simla, 16th November 1877, above referred to, and respectfully requested that His Excellency would be so good as to favour the Chamber by transmitting copies of this letter and its accompaniments to His Excellency the Governor-General in Council for his information.

On the 25th of March, His Excellency the Governor in Council was so good as to acknowledge the receipt of this representation, and to state that the subject was under the consideration of Government.

NEW CONSOLIDATED CUSTOMS BILL.

The Honourable Mr. T. C. Hope visited Bombay in November last for the purpose of conferring with the Customs autherities, and with the Chamber, about the Sea Customs Bill, which was then before the Council of the Governor-General, and of which Mr. Hope had charge. A conference accordingly took place in the rooms of the Chamber, on the 9th of that month, when the following gentlemen were present to meet Mr. Hope, Mr. Walter Lang, Chairman of the Chamber, Messrs. Donald Graham, Hamilton Maxwell, G. A. Ketteridge, C. F. Meilli, C. Macdonald, J. L. Symons, F. D. Parker, and the Secretary. All the provisions of the Bill were carefully considered, and the several alterations and amendments, which were suggested by the members present, were taken note of by Mr. Hope, and will be found in the appendix.

IMPORTATIONS OF TIMBER FROM BURMAH FOR SALE IN BOMBAY ON ACCOUNT OF GOVERNMENT.

Towards the close of the year 1875, it came to the knowledge of your Committee that the Government of India had imported from Moulmein 560 tons of Teak timber, and that the same had been placed in the hands of a firm for sale in this market. The immediate effect of this importation, and of the rumours which were at the same time current that Government intended sending further shipments to Bombay for sale, was a fall in the market price of timber of Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per ton; and so long as the uncertainty as to the intentions of Government lasted, the disturbance in the market would continue. Your Committee protested against the action of Government interfering with the timber trade between Burmah and Bombay, as the competition of Government with private traders was certain to result in great injury to the trade; and they suggested that Government should adhere to a definite policy, and that all future sales should either be made in Moulmein, or if it was deemed advisable to export, that it should, in this as in similar cases, notify the quantities and descriptions expected, and advertise them for sale by public auction at stated times.

THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS BILL.

On the 5th of November last, the Government of Bombay forwarded to the Chamber a copy of a letter from the Government of India No. 824, dated the 18th of October, together with a copy of "The Negotiable Instruments Bill," and of the preliminary Report of the Select Committee thereon, and requested that Government might be favoured with the opinion of the Chamber on the provisions of the Bill. The Bill was referred to the consideration of a Special Committee consisting of Mr. W. Lang, Chairman of the Chamber, Mr. Mackintosh Balfour, Mr. W. A. Baker, Mr. H. W. Jones, and Mr. M. Mowat, Deputy Chairman of the Chamber, and the Report of the Special Committee, which will be found in the apendix, was adopted, and forwarded to Government.

The Council of the Governor-General, after receiving the opinion of the Chamber and of other bodies to whom the Bill had been referred, again submitted it to the consideration of the Select Committee, who in a great measure rearranged the sections of the Bill, and introduced several important changes, and the Bill so altered came before the Legislative Council of the Governor-General, on the 20th June 1878 last, when the Bill was in its third stage.

The Council ordered that the Bill, and the second Report of the Select Committee thereon, should be sent to the several Local Governments for their respective opinions, and the Bill and the Report were forwarded by the Government of Bombay to the Chamber for report. The Bill and the Report were referred by the Chamber to the same Special Committee who had considered the Bill in its first stage (with the exception of Mr. Jones whose absence from Bombay prevented him from serving on the Committee, and whose place was filled by Mr. Blackhall); and the second Report of the Special Committee, which will be found in the appendix, was adopted and forwarded to Government.

THE G. I. P. RAILWAY COMPANY'S GOODS TRAFFIC,—INSUFFICIENCY OF ROLLING STOCK.

In the month of February last, complaints were made to the Chamber that large quantities of cotton, grain, and seeds were lying at and outside the stations on the line, and could not be forwarded for want of rolling stock. Merchants were, in consequence, prevented from fulfilling their contracts, and their operations were totally disconcerted by the excessive delay which occurred in the despatch of produce from stations in Berar and Khandeish, and it was reported that, at Oomrawuttee, the gates of the station had actually been closed for a time and not a bale of cotton received. At Nagpore, large quantities of grain had been lying for months, and, at Hurdah alone, about 40,000 bags of grain—most of it lying there for a considerable time—were awaiting transport, the means of which did not appear to be available. Such a state of things occurring at the height of the season could not but be most disastrous to the trade.

On receiving these complaints, your Committee wrote to the General Traffic Manager, urging that no endeavours should be spared to move away the produce which had been delayed, and was accumulating, at many of the stations to the serious injury of the merchants interested. They also addressed a remonstrance to Government in which they pointed out that this continued failure of the Railway Company to keep pace with the export trade of the Presidency was no less injurious to mercantile interests than it would be eventually to the imperial revenue and the prosperity of the country; and they expressed their hope that measures would be at once adopted to remove the cause of complaints which merchants had had too just reason to make during the preceding 12 months against the inefficiency of the Company, whatever might be the cause to which that inefficiency was then attributable. On this remonstrance, the Government of Bombay passed a Resolution No. 427, dated 1st March 1878, announcing that Government had supported the recent application of the Railway Company to augment their wagon stock by the addition of 1,000 ten-ton covered wagons, that these wagons could not, however, be on the rails for some months, but in the meantime the Agent was endeavouring to supplement the existing wagon stock by hiring from other companies, and that the question of improving the working of the stock so as to obtain better results from it was engaging special attention; further that should the Agent be of opinion that further and immediate measures were necessary, he should take prompt action. Your Committee could form no idea whether this addition would be sufficient for the requirements of the largely increasing traffic from the producing destricts to the Port, but they submitted that the public interests demanded that the G. I. P. Railway Company's stock of engines and of wagons should not only be at all times sufficient for the probable requirements of their increasing ordinary traffic, but that the Company should also be required to provide an additional stock to be held in reserve for the recurrence of famine, or for other exigencies. Besides the deficiency of rolling stock, another obstacle to the working of the traffic had been the great want of sidings or crossing places at suitable distances, and the consequent impediment to the rapid conveyance of produce over single lines of railway. His Excellency the Governor in Council observed that although the Railway Company was not doing all that could be wished under a great and sudden development of traffic, still it was doing much more than it had ever done of late years, and very much more than it was doing two years previously; that, with reference to the remark that the Committee would form no idea whether the 1,000 ten-ton wagons would be sufficient for the requirements of the largely increasing traffic, he was in hopes that the Chamber might have been able to offer the Railway Company and Government a reliable forecast of the future traffic, which would have proved a guide to the number of engines, and rolling stock, which should be prepared, and that he would be glad of any information which the Chamber might at any time be able to offer on the subject; that with regard to the suggestion that the Railway Companies ought, in addition to sufficient stock for ordinary work, to provide a reserve to meet any famine traffic which might arise, His Excellency saw much force in the suggestion, but it was probable that the Companies would demur to undertaking such a scheme; if it should have to be undertaken by Government, then some consideration would be needed on financial grounds, and although His Excellency would represent the matter in the proper quarter, he was unable to say whether such a plan was feasible; that with regard to the subject of crossing stations, His Excellency observed that, during the year 1877, 34 crossing and signalling stations had been opened and that 10 more were in hand; and, if the Chamber thought that more were still required, they were requested to favour Government with particulars as to the points or places where such requirements were believed to exist.

Your Committee, in reply to these observations, reminded His Excellency that this great development of traffic began in the year 1875-76, and that it was the result of a bountiful harvest, the export of which was in a great measure stimulated by the reduction, in September 1875, of the G. I. P. Railway Company's rates for the carriage of grain and seeds. The total export from Bombay, in the year ending 31st March 1876, of wheat, and of linseed, rapeseed, and gingelly seed was 3,805,059 cwt. against 1,694,436 cwt. in the preceding year, and it was worthy of note that, notwithstanding the subsequent years of scarcity the great development of traffic which began in 1876 had been maintained. The total export of wheat and seed in 1877, was 3,887,442 cwt. and, in 1878, 4,288,268 cwt. If the last two years had been years of ordinary abundance, it was reasonable to suppose that the export trade in those years would have assumed very much large proportions, as it was likely to do next year if the crops were good.

The question of the probable continuance of this development of production in the Central Provinces was naturally a source of much anxiety to those who were responsible for duly providing for the requirements of the traffic of the Railway; but, it should be remembered that, while the demand in Europe for wheat and seeds showed no symptoms of falling off, the capabilities of the producing districts were still far from being exhausted. Nor had the increase in exports been confined to the Bombay Presidency. It had been equally great from all parts of British India; and the through traffic from the northern lines which had not been so brisk in the year 1878, because of the scarcity and short crops in the North-West, might now be looked upon as a yearly increasing item of traffic in years of ordinary crops in the north of India.

These considerations induced your Committee to think that an addition of 1,000 ten-ton wagons would not be sufficient for the requirements of the largely increasing traffic of the line. In the Railway Company's statement of engine and rolling stock for the half year ending 31st December 1877, it appeared that the total number of goods engines authorised was 276, while the total stock on the list was 200; and that the total wagon stock authorised was 9 876 goods vehicles, while the total stock on the list was 6,679 only, showing a deficiency in the actual stock, compared with that authorised, of 76 goods engines, and of 2,197 goods vehicles. Your Committee had no information as to the basis on which the calculation of the authorized engine and wagon stock was arrived at, but the numbers seemed to them to represent pretty fairly what the engine and wagon stock of the Company should be; and they considered that the failure of the G. I. P. Railway Company, until very recently, to deal with their ordinary traffic, without very serious delays, justified them in urging His Excellency to insist upon the Railway Company completing, within the earliest practicable period of time, their engine and wagon stock up to their authorised limits.

With regard to the suggested augmentation of engine and rolling stock, and to the reserve stock that might be provided to meet any traffic which might arise, the cost would be a very small item of expenditure when compared with the capital of a Company like the G. I. P. Railway Company; but if the Railway Company demurred to undertaking to provide a reserve stock of engines and wagons to meet any famine traffic that might arise, your Committee were gratified to learn that His Excellency intended nevertheless urging the scheme upon the Government of India. That Government had already recognized the necessity of imposing new taxes in order to create an insurance fund for the relief of famines. It had been clearly shown that the present engine and rolling stock on all the railways in India was insufficient to meet the pressure experienced last year; and it appeared to your Committee that, in providing for the relief of future famines, money could not be spent in a more profitable or beneficial way than by increasing the carrying power of the railways.

Your Committee were not in a position to say if more crossing and signalling stations than those opened in 1877, and those in hand, were still required, or to indicate the points or places where such requirements might exist; information on these points could, they believed, only be supplied by persons conversant with the detailed working of the traffic. But, after the experience of the last 16 months, your Committee begged most earnestly to urge upon His Excellency the necessity which existed for doubling the line from Bhosawul to Jubbulpore, on the main line, and from Bhosawul to Nagpore, on the line through the Central Provinces. If these entire lengths could not be at present undertaken, then they hoped that His Excellency would at least press upon the Company the ex-

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treme importance of doubling the main line as far as Khundwa, and the Nagpore branch as far as Budnaira, from which portion of it the greater part of the traffic of the Nagpore Branch came.

His Excellency in acknowledging the receipt of this communication was so good as to state that he had directed a copy of it to be sent to the Agent of the G. I. P. Railway Company, who had been requested to give his early attention to the question of doubling the lines of railway beyond Bhosawul, and of augmenting, if necessary, the engine and vehicle stock,—further that the important question of providing a reserve stock of engines and wagons, to meet sudden and unexpected demands arising from famine or other causes, was engaging the attention of Government.

SUGGESTIONS BY THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR AND MASTER ATTENDANT OF THE PORT FOR ENSURING A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF EXHIBITING LIGHTS ON NATIVE CRAFT, AND A BETTER ACQUAINTANCE ON THE PART OF PERSONS IN CHARGE OF SUCH VESSELS WITH THE RULES OF THE ROAD AT SEA, &C.

The Chamber has been favoured by Government with copies of the Reports No. 723, dated 30th June 1877 and No. 1,037, dated 29th August 1877, of the Deputy Conservator and Master Attendant of the Port, containing valuable suggestions with the above objects. Your Committee believe that if the system recommended by Captain Morland were adopted, it would tend to lessen the number of accidents and casualties which now occur between steamers or sailing vessels and native craft.

CONTROL EXERCISED BY GOVERNMENT OVER THE EASTERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED.

Last year, your Committee, who then held office, represented to Government that it would conduce very greatly to the public advantage if the Eastern Telegraph Company were permitted to deliver their own telegrams, and to have a separate office, or a separate counter in the Government Office, at which they would receive messages direct from the public without the intervention of the Government Department. The Government of India declined to comply with this request; but it was at the same time stated that, if the Chamber would specifically state in what way the existing procedure of the Telegraph Department was unsatisfactory to the public, an endeavour would be made to meet their wishes so far as was consistent with international Rules and the obligations of the Convention. A letter containing specific complaints was accordingly submitted, but the Government of India simply took advantage of the specific instances adduced to explain them away, and to ignore the main point of the whole question, which was the separation of the Eastern Telegraph Company's office from the Government Department.

Your Committee in resuming the correspondence availed themselves of the opportunity also to submit that most public inconvenience was occasioned by the refusal of the Government Telegraph Department to receive, unless at extra charge, massages in words which were composed of what might be considered fair words, and which were received and passed by all the telegraph officers in England. If the public in India were not to be permitted to benefit by the advantages which resulted from the competition in telegraphy enjoyed in England, your Committee urged that the Government of India should exercise its control over the Eastern Telegraph in a liberal manner.

One of the reasons assigned by the Government of India for its inability to comply with the request of the Chamber was that the Government of Bombay had expressed no opinion upon it; but His Excellency in Council, in again drawing the attention of the Government of India to your Committee's representation, was so good as to recommend that the wishes of the Chamber should be complied with, if the Government of India saw no objection to the arrangement. But the Governor-General in Council again declined to comply with the Chamber's request that the Eastern Telegraph Company should be permitted to have a separate office or counter, as the Government of India would not then be in a position to fulfil the treaty obligations imposed on it by the Telegraph Convention.

LIGHTHOUSE ON CAPE GUARDFUI.

Our predecessors in office submitted, for the consideration of the Elder Brethren of Trinity House, the great necessity which existed for a Light being placed on, or in the neighbourhood of, Cape Guardafui, with an earnest expression of the Chamber's hope that, as the number of vessels which passed that Cape, was annually increasing, and the probabilities of accident therefore augmented, the Elder Brethren would urge, in the proper quarter, the immediate erection of such a Light. The Corporation, in acknowledging the receipt of this letter, remarked that the Secretary of State for India had, in forwarding the letter to that body, been good enough to have it accompanied by papers from the Aden Residency on the same subject, especially suggesting the ad interim use of Automatic Signal Buoys; and further that the Board had had before it a proposal to place a Light Vessel at the Station until the Lighthouse could be erected.

Before considering these various suggestions, it seemed to the Elder Brethren very desirable to obtain the opinion of practical navigators to whom, from frequently passing it, the locality was familiar; and by the courtesy of the Directors and Officers of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, the Shipmasters' Society, and other public bodies they had received very valuable information. They gathered from these various reports, and from the wreck returns that during the S. W. Monsoon there was a great deal of thick weather, and confused current along the African seaboard; and that considerable risk was run in borrowing on to it at such times until the exact position was determined. It seemed therefore, to the Elder Brethren that in a locality, tempestuous during a considerable portion of the year, and four hundred miles from a relieving station, in case of casualty either to the moorings of the ship or the lighting apparatus, the light vessel form of seamark, which had at best only a low power and limited range, would be attended by too much uncertainty, and that the best arrangement would be an efficient Light on Guardafui.

The Elder Brethren were not in a position to judge how soon or how securely it was probable that such a Light could be placed, but it appeared that the Board of Trade were taking considerable trouble to promote its establishment, and it did not seem to the Elder Brethren that the cost of it need involve any very large addition to the tolls of the Red Sea Lights.

Several other papers on the subject, which had passed between the Board of Trade, the Foreign Office, and the India Office, were subsequently forwarded to the Chamber. These papers concluded with a letter from the Board of Trade to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated 22nd December 1877, in which it was stated that that Department had received through the Foreign Office a further despatch from Her Majesty's Agent and Consul General in Egypt, in which he stated that, in the face of present Eastern embarrassments, he would hesitate to urge the Egyptian Government to undertake an expensive work, and suggested the postponement of the proposal till a more favourable time.

THE OVERLAND MAIL CONTRACT.

As there appeared to be some difference of opinion as to the conditions of the new contract, which our predecessors in office had suggested should be urged on H. M.'s Postmaster General, your Committee decided to call a public meeting of the inhabitants of this city to take an expression of opinion as to the amended terms which, with the great improvements in steam navigation, and the development of steam shipping since the opening of the Suez Canal, India, which contributed so largely to the subsidy, was entitled to obtain in the new contract. Accordingly a public meeting, convened by the Sheriff was held in the Town Hall, on the 1st of March last when a memorial containing the views of the inhabitants was unanimously adopted. The main point of difference between the views expressed by the Chamber last year and those of the public meeting was, that while the Chamber was of opinion that the stipulated rate of speed at which the mail steamers should be run between Brindisi and Alexandria should be not less than 15 knots an hour, and between Suez and Bombay 13 knots an hour, the public meeting considered that the service between London and Bombay, via Brindisi, should be performed in 16 days, one day additional time being allowed for the passage from Bombay to Aden during the three months of the S. W. Monsoon. The memorial was forwarded to the Postmaster General, who, in acknowledging the receipt of it, stated that the suggestions of the memorialists would receive due consideration.

Advertisements appeared in the English newspapers of the 28th of June inviting tenders for the new Indian Mail Service to commence from the 1st of February 1880. The changes made in the service were important, both the Southampton and Calcutta service being abandoned, as the public meeting had suggested. The tender of the Peninsular and Oriental Company for the entire mail contract for India and China was accepted, the period of the contract being eight years from the 1st February 1880, and the speed to be given 11 knots from Brindisi to Bombay, via Suez Canal, and 10½ knots between Suez and Shanghai.

BILL MAKING SILVER DOLLARS LEGAL TENDER IN THE UNITED STATES.

A report having reached Bombay that the Bill had passed the Senate making silver dollars legal tender, your Committee, considering that if this Bill were passed it would probably have an important effect on sterling exchange in India, despatched a telegram to the Board of Trade New York, enquiring if the President would veto the Bill, to which the Board replied that it was generally believed he would do so. Intelligence was afterwards received that the President had vetoed the Bill, but that, on its again coming before the Senate, the Bill was passed by the requisite majority and became law.

THE LICENSE TAX.

On December 27th 1877, Sir John Strachey, the Finance Minister of the Government of India at a meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council, made a statement declaring the necessity of creating a permanent National Insurance Fund for the prevention or mitigation of famines in India, and announced that, as the ordinary revenue barely covered the ordinary expenditure, the Government of India had no alternative but to impose fresh taxation in order to provide the means of meeting this famine charge, which had been fixed at £1,500,000 a year. In pursuance of this policy, the duty levied on salt in the Presidency of Bombay had been raised from Rs. 1-13 to Rs. 2-8 a maund, and a Bill had been passed by the local Legislative Council requiring all persons carrying on trades, dealings, or industries of any kind whatever, in the Presidency of Bombay, to pay fees varying in amount from Rs. 2 to Rs. 200 for licences entitling them to carry on their business.

The Bill passed in Bombay was not only faulty in details but odious in principle. It struck too low, for all persons engaged in trade were made liable to it. But the feature of the tax which was specially obnoxious was the exemption from its operation of all persons who had fixed incomes and of the professional classes including barristers, solicitors, and doctors.

Several of the more prominent citizens were invited to meet in the rooms of the Chamber, and it was decided that the best course would be to call a public meeting of the inhabitants of Bombay to protest against the Trades License Tax. A public meeting, convened by the Sheriff, was accordingly held on the 19th of February last, in Wilson's Great World Circus, Esplanade (the Government refused to allow the Town Hall to be used for the discussion of the question): it was estimated that about 5,000 persons were present; and the petition to the House of Commons, which was proposed to the meeting for adoption, was accepted with enthusiasm. The proceedings of the meeting, including the petition to the House of Commons, will be found in the appendix.

Memorials protesting against the License Tax were also submitted to the authorities by other public bodies. The Bombay Trades Association presented a petition to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay in Council; and the Bengal and Madras Chambers of Commerce addressed memorials to H. M.'s Secretary of State for India.

Subsequently great indignation was felt by merchants at what might be considered the improper application of the Act, such as the levying of the tax from more than one partner in a firm, and it appeared to your Committee that all the members of the Chamber should be invited to join in an organization to resist it, and this invitation was pretty generally responded to. Opinions of counsel were taken on this and other points; but the points principally objected to were conceded by Government, and there was then no need of any further resistance.

THE DEFICITS IN THE REVENUES OF THE PORT TRUST.

It would be observed, from the last Annual Report, page 425, that a letter was despatched to the Government of India, in accordance with the Resolution passed by the Chamber on this subject at the General Meeting held on the 24th of July 1877. To that letter a reply was received on the 4th of March 1878, stating that the expression of the views of the Chamber had been laid before His Excellency the Viceroy in Council; that the financial arrangements of the Bombay Port Trust were under the careful consideration of the Governments of India and Bombay; and that when any decision had been arrived at early intimation would be given to the Chamber.

NEGOTIATIONS BY GOVERNMENT TO ACQUIRE THE REMAINING FORESHORE PROPERTIES.

A day or two after the letter of the 4th of March 1878 referred to under the preceding heading, was received, negotiations were entered into by Government for the purchase of the remaining foreshore properties in the harbour of Bombay. A General Meeting of the Chamber was held on the 22nd of March 1877 to discuss this question. At this Meeting the following Resolutions were passed:—

> That this Chamber believes that the negotiations which have been entered into by Government to acquire the Bombay foreshore properties can be so arranged as to prove conducive to the good of the trade of the port, but as this will depend on the form given to the new Trust and the amount of its capital liability, the Chamber trusts that it will be consulted on the subject before anything is decided as to the constitution of the Board and the re-adjustment of the debt of the Trust.
>
> That if the sanction of the Government of India to the proposed purchase of the foreshore properties has been given subject to the local Government undertaking that the trade of the port shall accept any such re-adjustment of debt or further liability to pay interest, then the Chamber respectfully claims a right to be consulted before the purchase is completed.
>
> That the Committee of the Chamber be instructed to send in a respectful memorial, embodying the foregoing resolutions, to the local Government, with a request that a copy thereof be sent forthwith to the Government of India.

A memorial, in accordance with these resolutions, and with the views of the Chamber, was sent to Government on the 10th of April last, to which His Excellency replied that, as soon as the purchase in question was completed, the Government of India would be consulted on the points raised in the Chamber's letter and that the views of the Chamber would doubtless be taken before the matter was finally arranged.

PROPOSAL TO FORM A TRUST IN BOMBAY SIMILAR TO THAT REGULATING THE MERSEY DOCKS.

On the 7th of August last, the Government of Bombay requested the opinion of the Chamber on the following proposal to form a Trust in Bombay something similar to that regulating the Mersey Docks:—

The whole of the foreshore properties including the Elphinstone Estate and Docks would be separately valued by competent and independent persons, and would be merged by consent of the owners, or if necessary by compulsory purchase, in the usual manner, into a single Trust. Bonds representing the value of the respective properties would be offered to each owner. The management of the whole would be placed in the hands of a single Board of Trustees, of whom (say) one-third might be elected by the bondholders, the Government exercising a voting power proportionate to the valuation of its share of the property; one-third by the merchants of Bombay who paid wharfage and dock dues to a certain amount; and the remaining third would be nominated by the Government of Bombay as representing the general public; and the whole Board would be presided over by a Chairman to be a paid and permanent officer, specially selected and appointed by Government. From the net income of the Trust a percentage of interest would be half-yearly declared on the bonds by the Board.

This outline of the scheme left much to be conjectured and information on several important points would be necessary before the Chamber could give a decided opinion upon it. It was not, for instance, stated whether Government intended guaranteeing any rate of dividend to the bondholders, and on this point your Committee observed that, if there was no such intention, it was improbable that any of the private foreshore owners would agree to join in the proposed Trust. Neither was it apparent whether it was intended that the Land Estates of the several interests should be merged in the Trust, or only Docks and Bunders, with sufficient land for the accommodation of the traffic. The Chamber would protest against any of the Land Estates belonging to the Port Trust, or the private companies, which could not possibly be required for the working of the bunder traffic, being included in the proposed scheme.

The points in this scheme which were deserving of most careful consideration were, it seemed to your Committee —(1) a fair valuation of the properties to be taken over, and (2) an adequate representation of the merchantile community on the Board of Trustees.

Your Committee also considered the constitution of the Board of Trustees, as proposed in the letter under acknowledgment, to be objectionable. Considering that the value of the Government property would be very much greater than that of all the private amalgamated properties, Government would, by the proposed plan, have a prepondering voice in the management of the Trust. If it were assumed that Government intended guaranteeing a certain rate of dividend to the bondholders—and on no other supposition was the proposal of Government practicable—then your Committee respectfully submitted that it was unnecessary and undesirable that the bondholders should be represented on the Board of Trustees. The bonds, being negotiable in the market, would doubtless for the most part soon pass into the hands of persons, who had no interest in the new Trust besides the regular payment of the guaranteed interest. The only interests which were entitled to be represented on the Board, were, it seemed to your Committee, the Government which guaranteed the interest, and the mercantile community which contributed the revenue out of which the interest was paid. Your Committee therefore recommended that the representation on the Board should be confined to these two interests only; that at least one-half of the Board should consist of mercantile members; and that the mercantile members should be elected by the Chamber.

It seemed to your Committee that the objections entertained by it to the uncertain and precarious valuations proposed, and to the constitution of the Board of Management, would in a great measure be obviated if Government reverted to its original intention of acquiring by purchase the absolute ownership of the private foreshore properties, for the trade would then to a considerable extent know what burdens it would have to meet, and the question of valuation—if a valuation were necessary—would be confined to the Government property which, however, it was presumed, would be made over to the new Trust at a valuation probably much under, but in no case exceeding, its actual cost, after deducting the proportion of the Land Estate in the Elphinstone purchase. It was reported that the various private foreshore owners had intimated to Government their willingness to sell to Government their respective properties, or the portions of their respective properties which Government desired to purchase, on the following terms:—

	Lakhs.
The Sassoon Dock	20
The New Colaba Company's property, Government remitting certain annual ground rent	18
The Appollo Press Company's property	4½
The New Mazagon Company's property, Government remitting the annual rental	22
The foreshore portion of the Frere Land and Reclamation Company's property, including wharves, canals, &c., and portion of land	10

These valuations were not generally considered as excessive, and, even if they were slightly so, it would appear preferable to accept the offers, if as was reported, they had been made, and thus put an end to the uncertainty which had long existed.

An advantage which would result from the purchase of these properties would be that the bondholders could have no claim to be represented on the Board of Trustees.

If, however, Government determined that the scheme now contemplated of merging all the foreshore properties into a single Trust be carried out, your Committee in this case also suggested that the above-mentioned valuations of the private foreshore owners for their respective properties, or the portions of their respective properties which Government proposed to purchase, should be accepted; that interest thereon at 4½ per cent. per annum, being the rate at which the imperial Government had recently been, and was still borrowing, be guaranteed to the bondholders by the Secretary of State for India in Council; and that all the net earnings above the amount required for the payment of the guaranteed interest be applied to the reduction of rates.

Your Committee considered that, in the event of the scheme on the basis of the Mersey Dock Scheme being adopted, it would be preferable that a maximum rate of 4½ per cent. interest should be given, instead of, what they understood was the intention of the Secretary of State, a guaranteed minimum rate of 4 per cent. rising to 6 per cent. if the profits of the Trust permitted (*vide* para. 10 of the letter of the Government of India to the Government of Bombay No. 516, dated 8th October 1878); for, if this intention were carried out, the bondholders whose interests would naturally induce them always to favour high rates being levied on the trade, would be entitled to be represented on the Board.

In the recent Resolution of the Government of Bombay No. 891, dated 21st October 1878, it would appear that Government show a decided preference for an out and out purchase, as recommended by your Committee, instead of a scheme based on the plan of the Mersey Trust; but they have made no reference to the view expressed by the Chamber that the value of the Land Estate of the Elphinstone property should be separated from the capital debt of the new Trust.

REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARKS UNDER THE ENGLISH ACTS.

In June last Government requested the opinion of the Chamber as to whether a demand existed in this Presidency for the registration of trade marks, the statutes and rules regarding which had been published in the *Gazette of India* of 10th February 1877. Your Committee were not aware of any such demand existing in this Presidency, but suggested that, if any did exist, it would be best known by application to the officer to whom those intending to register would have to apply.

Your Committee, however, took the opportunity to remind His Excellency that, on the 4th of September 1877, the Chamber had submitted to Government the expediency of a measure being introduced into India similar to the English Trade Marks Registration Acts.

DEPARTURE OF THE AUSTRALIAN AND CHINA MAIL STEAMERS.

The Post-master General requested the opinion of the Chamber on the following points:—(1) The departure of the Australian Mail Steamer having lately been changed from Saturday to Friday, was any inconvenience caused by the departure of the Overland and Australian Mails on the same day during the rainy season? (2) Supposing that during the fair season, the China and Australian Mails were despatched together on Monday (the same day as the Overland Mail), would not the arrangement be very inconvenient to the mercantile community?

Your Committee considered that no inconvenience was caused by the departure of the Overland and Australian Mails on the same day during the rainy season, and that if, during the fair season, the China and Australian Mails were despatched together on Monday (the same day as the Overland Mail) the arrangement would be productive of the greatest possible inconvenience to the mercantile community. Your Committee added that it appeared to them that no alteration in the day of the departure of the China Mails was necessary in the Monsoon, and, as the Overland Mails were despatched on Mondays during the fair season, that Tuesday was the most convenient day for the departure of the other mails, particularly the China Mails, all the year round.

ABOLITION OF THE LAND POSTAL LINE TO KURRACHEE.

Your Committee observing, from the Postal Notice issued by the Presidency Post-Master, under date the 1st of July 1878, that the Inland Mails to Kurrachee and Sind had been discontinued, addressed the Post-master General, requesting the favour of his informing the Chamber of the reasons which had induced Government to discontinue these mails. The principal reasons were:—That it was found that, by despatching a bi-weekly mail steamer to Kurrachee, the mails for Sind generally would be delivered, on 5 days out of the 7, as early as they now were by the land line, and on most of the days earlier; that, in the Monsoon, the land line was very precarious, the mail being detained for days when the Runn of Cutch was flooded; and that the expense of the land line was enormous in comparison with the amount of mail it carried.

THE STAMP BILL.

Your Committee deeming it desirable that the Chamber should record its opinion on the Stamp Bill, appointed a Special Committee to consider its provisions. The Special Committee consisted of Mr. W. Lang, Chairman of the Chamber, Mr. Mackintosh Balfour, Mr. W. S. D. Blackhall, Mr. H. W. Jones, and Mr. M. Mowat, Deputy Chairman of the Chamber. The Report of the Special Committee, which will be found in the appendix, was adopted and forwarded to Government.

The point which in this Bill appeared to the Special Committee to be most objectionable was the increase of nearly 50 per cent., which it was proposed to levy on Bills of Exchange payable after sight. It was proposed to increase the Stamp Duty upon Bills of Exchange from Rs. 6 to Rs. 10 *per mille*; or, in other words, to make it twice as heavy as it was in Great Britain, although trade had not lately been of a character to bear increased burdens. After the Chamber's Report on the Bill was sent to Government, the Bill was referred to a Select Committee of the Council of the Governor-General. The Chamber will be gratified to learn that the Select Committee have, in their preliminary Report, abandoned the intention of providing for this excessive increase in the duty on Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes payable otherwise than on demand, on the ground that they would not be warranted in imposing this additional tax upon the commerce of the country, especially at a season of comparative depression like the present. Other important amendments of the original Bill have also been made by the Select Committee.

EXTENSION OF THE "VALUE PAYABLE" SYSTEM TO OVERLAND PARCELS BOOKED IN LONDON.

The "value payable" system provides for the transmission by the Post Office of a parcel (paid or unpaid) with the condition of realizing from the addressee on delivery the value of its contents as declared by the sender, and the payment to him (the sender) of the amount so realized, less a commission of about 2 per cent., thus facilitating intercourse between customers and tradesmen by saving the addressee, or customer, from the trouble of a separate remittance, and the sender or tradesman from the risk and trouble of collecting his money.

No question had been raised as to the probable convenience of the system as applied to the inland parcel post of India; but it was intended to extend this system to "Overland parcels" booked in London for delivery in India; and the Calcutta Trades Association protested most strongly against this extension of the system to England, as calculated seriously to injure all who were engaged in trade in India.

In consequence of this objection an expression of the opinion of the Chamber, and of other representative bodies, was invited by the Director-General of the Post Office of India on the following point—viz., whether the extension of the "value payable" system to overland parcels would, or would not, be a boon to the public, especially to European residents in the interior of the country. To this question, your Committee replied in the affirmative. Other bodies, however, objected to the measure in its present form, and His Excellency in Council therefore, thought it well, before pressing the introduction of the revised arrangements, to allow time for a fuller consideration of the matter by those whose interests were supposed to be affected adversely.

STATISTICS OF GRAIN TRAFFIC DURING THE PERIOD OF THE RECENT FAMINE.

The Chamber was favoured with a Memorandum by the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated 2nd April 1878, and accompanying diagrams, and explanatory notes, exhibiting the course of the grain traffic on the G. I. P. Railway, quarter by quarter, from 1st October 1876 to 30th September 1877, also, with a statement showing total number and daily average of trains in November 1876 and in April and October 1877. A further Memo., dated 5th August last, and accompaniments, were also received from the Consulting Engineer, giving statistics of grain traffic from 1st July 1876 to 31st December 1877, embracing the period of the recent famine in the Deccan and Madras. These Memoranda and statements will be found in the appendix.

THE NEW OPIUM RULES.

A number of copies of a circular on the subject of these rules, in their relation to the wholesale trade, were sent to the Chamber in May last for the purpose of giving them greater publicity. Under these rules, the transport of opium within or without the limits of Bombay was forbidden, except under cover of a Permit, and no Permit would be given for opium brought to Bombay for wholesale trade and exportation, except for whole or half chests. Your Committee deemed it necessary to point out that it would be impossible to carry on the business transactions of the purchase and sale of opium in Bombay, unless purchasers were allowed to convey samples to their offices for the purposes of testing. Fires, on which the samples were boiled, were necessary in the operation of testing, and fires could not, without great risk, be introduced into the present opium godowns, while the owners of the opium stored in these godowns would not, because of the great value of the article and its highly inflammable nature, allow a fire to be lighted under the same roof. Further correspondence passed between the Deputy Commissioner of Customs and the Chamber on the subject, resulting in the proposed rule being for the present placed in abeyance.

THE TREATY OF TIENTSIN.

The Government of India, in August last, invited the Chamber to favour the Government with any suggestions they might wish to make in regard to the modification of the commercial clauses of the Treaty and of the Convention subsidiary to the Treaty subsequently entered into with the Chinese Government, so far as these clauses affected the trade between India and China. Your Committee were of opinion that the time had now come for opinion to be placed on the same footing as all other ordinary imports into China. It was cultivated to so great an extent in the country that there was no reason why any more restriction should be placed on this article than on piece goods, or any other article of commerce, after it had once paid the import duty.

MONTHLY TRADE AND NAVIGATION RETURNS OF THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

In October 1877, the Commissioner of Customs requested the opinion of the Chamber as to the desirability or otherwise of continuing to publish these Returns in the *Government Gazette*, as such Returns did not appear to be published in any other Local *Government Gazette*. Your Committee were of opinion that the publication of the Returns in the *Gazette*, or in some other form, was in the highest degree desirable, and that to discontinue it altogether would be productive of great inconvenience. They availed themselves of the opportunity to suggest that it would add greatly to the usefulness of the Returns if they were issued in the very convenient and comprehensive form adopted by the Government of India in the "Accounts relating to the Trade and navigation of British India," which were issued monthly, with the quantities on the left hand page and the values on the right, and were compared at the same time with the corresponding periods of the two previous years. This form agreed in every important particular with the monthly form of the "Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom ordered by the House of Commons." The publication of the Returns in this form would be of great convenience to merchants; and if it were adopted and issued to subscribers at a moderate charge, there would then be no necessity for the publication of the Returns in the *Government Gazette*, or of the "annual statement of the Trade and Navigation of the Presidency of Bombay as at present issued."

Mr. O'Conor, Assistant Secretary to the Government of India who was deputed in June and July last to inquire into the affairs of the Bombay Custom House, intimated to your Committee that, if the Chamber desired it Government was prepared, if a sufficient number of subscribers came forward, to print and issue the desired Return; he estimated that 35 subscribers would be sufficient; the charge to each subscriber being Rs. 4 for one copy, and Re. 1 for every additional copy which he required. This intimation was circulated among the members of the Chamber; the required number of copies was subscribed, and your Committee hope that the Returns in the form desired will soon be regularly issued.

COMPLAINTS OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

Numerous complaints having been made to the Chamber of the increasing and irritating obstructions to trade which were being experienced by the mercantile community from the manner in which the work of the Custom House was conducted, your Committee deemed it necessary to bring the same to the notice of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

The causes of these complaints appeared again to have arisen from the constant changes of the superior officers of Customs, respecting which the Chamber addressed the Viceroy on the occasion of Lord Lytton's visit to Bombay in December 1876. When Mr. Reid left the Custom House, Mr. Pritchard was, in addition to his substantive appointment of Collector of Salt Revenue, appointed Acting Commissioner of Customs, Abkari, and Opium, and Reporter-General of External Commerce. During Mr. Pritchard's temporary deputation to Simla, Mr. Pedder was appointed Acting Commissioner of Customs, Abkari, and Opium, and Reporter-General of External Commerce, but in addition to the duties of this appointment, he was to continue to perform his special duties in connection with the License Tax. To neither Mr. Pritchard nor Mr. Pedder was there any personal objection; but it seemed to your Committee that it was impossible for any person, no matter what his energy and abilities might be, to administer the Customs Department with proper efficiency, if he had also other onerous duties to attend to.

Mr. Pritchard was appointed Acting Commissioner of Customs on the 29th March last, but although the duties of this office necessarily required the attendance of the Commissioner daily at the Custom House, he was during the greater part of the time he held the office absent from Bombay. Mr. Pedder had apparently adopted the same practice, and, from an office in Poona, was nominally conducting the Custom House of the Port of Bombay. The Customs Department had consequently been left to the charge of the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Trevor, who, although a conscientious and hard working official, did not appear to the Chamber to be adapted for the work of the Custom House, and to Mr. Coghlan, who professed to represent the Acting Commissioner, but who did not possess the experience requisite for the office.

The result of this state of things was that an illiberal and antagonistic spirit, and an unwillingness to exercise any discretionary power, were now the prevailing characteristics in the conduct of the Custom House; and your Committee believed that it was principally attributable to the mistaken and determined disinclination of the Deputy Commissioner to *use any discretion*, and to his deciding every individual case which arose strictly according to the *letter* of the Act, that the spirit of liberality in which the Act was lately amended by Government had failed to benefit the merchants, as it was intended to do.

In connection with these remarks, your Committee drew attention to the fact that official documents were signed by Mr. Coghlan "for Acting Commissioner of Customs, Opium, and Abkari," as they were not aware of any official notification of Government of his appointment to the charge of that office,—by the assumption of which he took the position of Commissioner of Customs, thereby virtually superseding the Deputy Commissioner, Mr Trevor, and the Assistant Commissioners. It was but a little more than four years since Mr. Coghlan was head Clerk of the Bonded Warehouse, from which point, without the slightest experience of the Customs Department, he virtually assumed the head of it. We had, therefore, Mr. Lestock Reid, as Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Pritchard acting for Mr. Reid, *but residing at Simla*, Mr. Pedder acting for Mr. Pritchard *but residing at Poona*, Mr. Trevor, the Deputy Commissioner, *on leave in Europe*, (this gentleman having gone home a few weeks previously,) and the only person in Bombay apparently able to sign an official document for the head of one of the most important departments of Government, Mr. Coghlan, a gentleman without any official position or experience in the department.

Your Committee believed that the Government of India, in passing the Sea Customs Act, 1878, had a twofold object in view, (1) that its legitimate revenue from Customs should be fairly and fully collected, and (2) with the least possible obstruction to trade, but your Committee regretted that while the latter object appeared to be lost sight of altogether, the former was unduly strained, in proof of which they gave several illustrations.

The system which had, for many years past been adopted in Calcutta, had, your Committee believed, worked with equal advantage to Government and to the mercantile community of that Port. A junior civilian of known energy and ability was appointed Commissioner of Customs on the understanding that, during his whole period of service, he should continue to act as Commissioner and aspire to no other office. By this plan, the great inconvenience resulting from frequent changes of the chief officer of the department was prevented; and your Committee would be glad if a similar system were introduced into Bombay.

It was of equal importance that a person of mercantile experience, and one capable of exercising a liberal discretionary power, should be appointed to the important office of Deputy Commissioner.

Some time ago, as the best means of removing the causes of complaint in Madras, a merchant was selected by the Madras Government to fill this office in the Custom House of that Port. It seemed to your Committee to be of little consequence whether the person appointed was taken from the official or non-official classes provided the fittest person was appointed. They believed that there was no other appointment where the qualifications of energy, experience, and the ability to exercise a wise and liberal discretion, were more needed than in that of the Deputy Commissioner of Customs.

Your Committee availed themselves of the opportunity to acknowledge the spirit of liberality with which the Government of India had always desired that the Customs Department should be administered. So recently as on the 2nd of September, it passed a Resolution dispensing with the payment of fees on the alteration of documents, the exaction of which, in every case without exception, had for some months past caused unnecessary hardship and annoyance. The concluding passage of para. 4 of that Resolution ran as follows:—"His Excellency the Governor-General in Council does not doubt that the discretionary power now vested in Custom Collectors will be wisely and liberally exercised, and the great importance of maintaining, so far as may be possible, friendly relations between the mercantile community and the Customs establishments always borne in mind."

Your Committee, in conclusion, hoped that His Excellency the Governor in Council would also take a liberal view of the relations which should exist between the Custom House officials and the mercantile community, and that he would take early measures to introduce such changes in the conduct of the Custom House as would relieve the mercantile community of this Port of the inconveniences to which they were now unnecessarily subjected.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE WESTERN RAJPUTANA RAILWAY ON THE BROAD GAUGE.

In the course of his reply to the deputation which had the honour of waiting upon His Excellency, on the 15th of September 1877, to present the memorial of the inhabitants of Bombay praying that he would urge on the Government of India and on H. M.'s Secretary of State that the whole of the line from Ahmedabad to Delhi be constructed on the broad gauge, His Excellency announced that he had very strongly recommended the line from Ahmedabad to Pahlunpore being constructed on the broad gauge, that that recommendation had been acceded to, and that the construction of that portion of the line was about immediately to be undertaken on the broad gauge. After that announcement, the mercantile community had hoped that the work would, from its great importance, be immediately begun and vigorously prosecuted.

It had, however, come to the knowledge of the Chamber that, while the construction of the narrow gauge line from Ajmere to Beawah was being rapidly pushed on, very little progress had been made with that portion of the line between Ahmedabad and Pahlunpore, which was sanctioned on the broad gauge; and in June last they addressed Government on the subject. The earthwork only had been done, and a few culverts only were being proceeded with, while no contract for maintenance, which was usual in works of this description when they were intended to be permanent, had, your Committee understood, yet been given. The languid way in which the work had hitherto been prosecuted might possibly be owing to financial considerations, but the Chamber would be glad to receive an assurance from His Excellency that there was no foundation for the fears which were entertained that it was the intention of the Government of India to depart from its Resolution passed on His Excellency's recommendation, and to make the line from Ahmedabad to Pahlunpore on the narrow gauge.

While writing on this subject, your Committee observed that the results of the working of the Rajpootana (State Metre Gauge) Railway, for the half year ending 30th June 1877, had now been ascertained. These had been brought together and compared with the same results in the working of the traffic of the G. I. P. and B. B. and C. I. Railways, by Mr. Wood, the Chief Auditor and Accountant of the latter Company, in a note, dated, 13th May 1878, and table of comparison appended thereto. The information contained in this note appeared to your Committee to be of extreme importance, and to merit careful consideration before further projects involving the construction of portions of main through lines of communication on the narrow gauge were commenced. Copies of this note and table of comparison were at the same time forwarded for the information of His Excellency with a request that he would be so good as to transmit copies to H. M.'s Secretary of State, and to the Government of India, for their consideration. Government, in acknowledging receipt of this communication, merely stated that copies had been forwarded to the Secretary of State and the Government of India.

NEW STIPULATION IN THE G. I. P. RAILWAY COMPANY'S RECEIPTS FOR GOODS.

In the beginning of June last, numerous complaints were made to the Chamber of the stipulation which was then entered in the G. I. P. Railway Company's receipts for goods, and which ran as follows:—"Consigned at owners risk, the Company being free from all risks on account of damage or loss by rain *or otherwise*," and a number of native merchants waited upon your Committee and produced the Railway Company's receipts containing this stipulation. It did not appear from what risks the words "or otherwise" were intended to free the Railway Company, but they had been interpreted in the bazaar to mean that the Company wished to exonerate themselves from all the risks for which they were liable as common carriers, such, for instance, as short deliveries, &c., and the consequence had been that not only had business been checked, but the native merchants had declined to forward any goods by railway, and would continue to do so until the intentions of the Railway Company were clearly made known to them.

The Traffic Manager, to whom your Committee submitted these complaints, was so good as to state that the risk note would in future be worded as follows:—Consigned at owners risk, the Company being freed from all risk on account of damage or loss by rain unless occasioned by the negligence of the Company, and that this would apply to undammered—not to dammered—piece goods, cotton, grain, &c. With this the native merchants expressed themselves as satisfied.

SUGGESTION OF THE DEPUTY-COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS THAT SHIPMASTERS AND AGENTS SHOULD, IN PREPARING THE IMPORT GENERAL MANIFEST, NUMBER THE ITEMS, AND NOTE CORRESPONDING NUMBERS ON THE BILLS OF LADING OR DELIVERY ORDERS.

The Deputy Commissioner, in making this excellent suggestion, stated that, if adopted, it would tend greatly to facilitate the work of the Import Department of the Custom House as well as save the time of importers. It would enable the Manifest clerk to lay his finger on the item and give entry at once instead of keeping the importer waiting while he hunted up and down through pages of confusing marks for the item required; and it would tend to prevent mistakes, and be a great assistance on all occasions involving reference to the General Manifest. The Deputy Commissioner proposed to direct that consecutive numbers should for the future always be given to the items in the General Manifests: the numbering of bills of lading or delivery orders to correspond was, however, beyond the province of the Customs Department, and he asked the Chamber, if the suggestion met with its approval, to endeavour to further its adoption by masters and shipping firms. The Deputy Commissioner's letter was circulated to the members of the Chamber, and the suggestion approved by them; and your Committee requested him to give directions for its being put in practice on the 1st of August last.

EXTENSION OF THE RAILWAY FROM NAGPORE TO RAIPORE ON THE NARROW GAUGE.

Your Committee learned, in May last, that this extension had been sanctioned on the narrow gauge, which would cause a break of gauge at Nagpore, the heart of the producing districts. It appeared to your Committee that this interruption would diminish the utility of the proposed line, and obstruct the efficient transit of the through traffic when the line was extended to Calcutta; and they therefore addressed a memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy praying that, in the construction of the line, the broad gauge be adopted. His Excellency the Governor in Council stated that, in forwarding the memorial to the Government of India, he had not felt that he would be justified in making any recommendation regarding the gauge to be adopted eastwards of Kamptee, up to which point it was desirable, in any case, to extend the broad gauge for the convenience of troop traffic.

The Government of India in reply to the Chamber's memorial stated that the line in question was a provincial one, for which the Local Administration had undertaken the financial responsibility, whilst the question of its gauge had been fully discussed, and, in compliance with the order of the Secretary of State in Council, it had been decided that that of the metre gauge should be adopted.

YORK-ANTWERP RULES OF GENERAL AVERAGE.

The Association for the Reform and Codification of the Law of Nations forwarded to the Chamber a report published by the Committee of York and Antwerp rules, from which it appeared that it was intended to put those rules in force from and after the 1st of January next; and they hoped that the Chamber would be willing to follow the example of the ship and steam-ship owners and powerful underwriting bodies of England, which now favoured the adoption of these rules. There seemed to your Committee to be no unanimity at home on the subject of these rules as yet; and they replied that merchants in the East would naturally agree to them as soon as they were universally adopted at home and in foreign countries.

MEMORIAL OF THE MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA ON THE RECENT ALTERATIONS IN THE INDIAN TARIFF APPLYING TO THE DUTIES ON COTTON GOODS AND YARN IMPORTED INTO INDIA.

A letter and resolution of the Manchester Chamber, addressed to the Secretary of State for India, were forwarded to this Chamber, with an expression of their hope that the resolution would meet with the approval of this Chamber, and that it might have our warm support for the object in view. The Manchester Chamber urged the desireableness of simplifying those provisions of the recent Indian Budget that affected manufactured cottons by exempting from duty all Goods made from Yarns not finer than 30s, and Yarns up to 26s. water and 42s. mule. Your Committee, in reply, regretted that they could not at present support the resolution of the Manchester Chamber, as it would be utterly hopeless in the present state of the finances of India to expect the Government of India to forego the revenue derived from the Goods and Yarns which that Chamber desired to have exempted from duty.

LIVERPOOL STANDARD SAMPLES.

The fresh standards of the different classifications of Dhollera, Oomraotee, Hinginghat, Sawginned Dharwar, Machine Ginned Broach, Comptah, and Veraval, referred to in last year's Report, were duly supplied to the Chamber by the Liverpool Cotton Brokers' Association. These samples were of great service, during last season, to members of the Chamber, and to those interested in the Cotton trade of this port, and the thanks of the Chamber were conveyed to the Association for the care and trouble which it had taken in the Chamber's behalf. Your Committee have applied to the Association for a new set of standard samples for the approaching season.

WEEKLY TELEGRAM REPORTING ON THE STATE OF THE COTTON CROPS AND THE PROSPECTS OF THE YEAR IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND THE BERARS.

Your Committee, believing that such a telegram containing this information brought down to the latest date and received on the day previous to the departure of the English Mail, would be useful to members, requested the Acting Commissioner of Cotton Statistics in the Central Provinces and the Berars to supply the Chamber regularly with such a telegram, which he kindly consented to do. These telegrams as soon as received, are printed and circulated for the information of members.

RAILWAY CONFERENCE IN CALCUTTA.

The General Railway Conference, referred to in last year's report, which was postponed for some months, in consequence, it was understood, of the pressure of the famine traffic upon the Railways, will be held in Calcutta, probably some time in January next. Your Committee at one time proposed submitting to the Conference a paper advocating a considerable reduction in the G. I. P. Railway Company's goods tariff, but this proposal has been abandoned as unlikely in any way to promote the object in view.

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF FEES FOR THE USE OF GOVERNMENT LANDING-PLACES IN THE PORT OF KURRACHEE.

This Bill, which was stated in last year's Report to be in contemplation, has recently been introduced into the Council of His Excellency the Governor for making Laws and Regulations. Under Section 2 of the Bill, the Governor in Council is empowered by notification in the *Bombay Government Gazette* and the *Sind Official Gazette* to determine the limits of any Government landing-place to which the provisions of this Act shall apply, and to fix the fees to be levied.

THE CONCESSION TO CONSTRUCT A RAILWAY FROM BELLARY TO MARMAGOA BAY IN PORTUGUESE TERRITORY.

In August last, your Committee, with extreme concern, heard it reported that H. M.'s Secretary of State for India had recently granted a concession for the construction of this railway, and that the concession had been granted without the knowledge or concurrence of the Government of India or the Government of Bombay, and without consulting the mercantile communities interested as to the expediency of such a concession being given. If the concessionaire were successful in forming a Company to make this railway, it would traverse in its western sections, the Foreign districts of Goa, and terminate at Marmagoa, a foreign port. The country belonging to the Portuguese Government would thus be opened up, but your Committee were not aware of any arrangement having been concluded by the Government of India with that Government under which all merchandise passing over the line would be exempted from duties and Marmagoa declared a free port, or under which the duties imposed in Portuguese territory would be equalized in every respect with those levied by the Government of India in British territory; and the trade of the Southern Mahratta Country, passing over the line, would therefore be subjected to whatever taxation a foreign Government might see fit to impose upon it. Your Committee considered it their duty to represent to H. M.'s Secretary of State, in the strongest terms, how injurious the effect of such a concession, if carried out, would be on the British trade of Southern and Western India, and they urged that every means be adopted to rescind the concession which had been made by any legitimate means which might be in the power of the Secretary of State.

THE INDIAN MERCHANT SHIPPING BILL, 1878.

A letter, dated 16th July last was received from Government forwarding a copy of a letter from the Government of India No. 865, dated 3rd idem, together with a copy of "The Indian Merchant Shipping Bill, 1878, and requesting that Government might be favoured with the opinion of the Chamber on the provisions of the Bill. A Special Committee, composed of the General Committee of the Chamber, with the addition of the following gentlemen, viz:—Messrs Hamilton Maxwell, James Dickson, and Captain J. R. Kellock, was appointed to consider the Bill, and the Report of the Special Committee was adopted and sent in to Government.

BALES OF DAMAGED COTTON, OILY WASTE, MILL DROPPINGS, &c.

Whenever bales of this description are measured by the Chamber's measurers at the several bunders, a memo., containing full information respecting the goods, is now filled up by the measurer and despatched direct to the Bombay underwriters' Association.

PROPOSAL OF THE EASTERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY TO ISSUE AN AUTHORISED CODE OF 50,000 WORDS.

The Bengal Chamber recently drew the attention of your Committee to this moment, the adoption of which would result in all present commercial codes being rendered useless, and merchants would have to suffer the inconvenience, annoyance, and expense, of preparing new ones. The proposal was to issue an authorised code of 50,000 words selected from the English, French, German, Latin, Italian, and Hindustani languages, which, it was declared by the Chairman of the Eastern Company, would be sufficient for the requirements of commerce and to apply a single rate for each word in this code, but a double charge would be made for any words other than those contained in it. The Bengal Chamber had no objection to an authorised code, but they considered that a code containing only 50,000 words was not sufficient for the requirements of commerce; that at least 100,000 words were necessary; and that the use of such authoritized code should be optional with merchants. They had no doubt in time its use would become general as new codes were prepared, but in the meantime they suggested that a united representation be made to the companies and to the Government Director-General, advocating that merchants be allowed to continue using their present codes, and that 5 figures should be taken as one word without repetition charge, as also Whitelaw's word combinations, and any others based on the same principle. The Bengal Chamber desired to be informed if this Chamber was willing to join in a general protest against the proposed alteration, and in a request that all words or word combinations not exceeding 10 letters similar to those referred to be admitted, and 5 figures be received as one word without extra charge.

In reply, your Committee observed that they had no information in regard to this contemplated movement beyond what the Bengal Chamber had communicated to them; but your Committee concurred with them in considering that a code containing only 50,000 words was not sufficient for the requirements of commerce, that at least 100,000 were necessary, and that the use of the proposed code should be optional with merchants. So far, therefore, as your Committee could see at present, they would be happy to join in the general protest, and in the request suggested by the Bengal Chamber.

While writing on this subject, your Committee desire to remark that they have been favoured with a copy of an interesting correspondence regarding Whitelaw's Code, which passed between the Indian autho[illegible] at home and Messrs. James Finlay and Co., Glasgow. This correspondence will be found in the appendix.

THE COTTON FRAUDS ACT.

The Bombay Cotton Frauds Act 1877, which was passed and sent to the Government of India for approval, was fully discussed last year. After some correspondence between the Local Government and the Government of India, the Government of India announced that they were prepared to pass the Bill if certain omissions were made. In accordance with the suggestions of that Government, a new Bill No. 4 of 1878 had been drawn up: it was introduced into the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Governor on the 13th September 1878, when it was read a first time; and the standing orders having been suspended the Bill passed the same day through all its stages. The member in charge of the Bill explained to the Council that the only material portions of last year's Bill which had been omitted were those with reference to the applications of fees and forfeitures. It had been thought advisable by the Local Government to expend a portion of the fees in the general improvement of cotton cultivation in the Presidency, but they had no very strong opinion on the subject, and, when the authorities on the other side of India took objection to that point, the Government of Bombay were quite prepared to meet their view. The only other change was the insertion of the words "not belonging to the Government" after the word "cotton," in the 21st section, the object of which amendment was to avoid all possibility of conflict with section 20 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878. With the exception of some verbal alterations, these were the only changes which had been made.

PROGRESS OF PRINCE'S DOCK TO SEPTEMBER, 1878.

The whole of the walling has been completed within the Dock and also the Harbour walls. The entrances have been completed with the exception of part of the coping, and the walls have been backed up.

Arrangements for the erection of sheds and minor works in connection with the Dock are in progress.

The gates and hydraulic machinery were shipped, and the first consignment weighing over 1,000 tons arrived in good order ex S. S. Alabama, the remainder about 400 tons, has been shipped in the Kaiser-i-Hind.

Twenty 30 cwt. cargo cranes have been provided as a commencement. They are portable and can be shifted so as to plumb the hatchways of any vessel. Hydraulic captans will also be fixed at the entrances for maneuvering vessels.

The excavation of the inside of the Dock has made good progress. Out of a total quantity of thirty millions cubic feet twenty-five millions have been taken out and the remaining portion will be finished in a few months. The greater portion of this material is being utilized at Mody Bay in reclaiming about 30 acres of foreshore to bunder level; selected portions have also been used for backing to the Dock walls.

The Dredger has been in full work during the year opening out a channel to the Dock. Diving and blasting operations in connection with the approaches were also carried on. From present appearances the Dock will be ready to receive vessels by April or May next year.

At low water extreme spring tides there will be 16 feet water in the channels, 14 on the sill, and 17 in the Dock. At ordinary low water springs there will be 2 feet more water.

Applications for berths to be reserved have already been received from the P. & O. and B. I. S. N. Companies, Hall, and Anchor, and Clan, lines, and also for the Troopships.

REMISSIONS AND REDUCTIONS OF CUSTOMS DUTIES.

A summary of all the changes which have been made by the Government of India, during the year ending 30th September 1878, in the Indian Tariff, will be found in the appendix, the same being a continuation of the list which appeared in last year's Report.

CHARTS AND NOTICES OF THE MARINE SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The Chamber is indebted to the courtesy of Commander A. Dundas Taylor, late I. N. Superintendent of Marine Surveys to the Government of India, for a supply regularly of the very valuable charts constructed by him. These charts, and the notices issued by the Marine Survey Department, are filed in the offices of the Chamber, where they are always open to the inspection of members.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Numerous references have been made to your Committee during the past year, on points connected [illegible] mercantile and shipping interests of the Port, which [illegible] considered and disposed of in the usual manner.

The balance at the credit of the Chamber on the 30th September 1878 was Rs. 17,253-6-7, against Rs. 21,955-0-3 in the previous year, being a falling off of Rs. 4,701-9-8. Of this falling off, however, only Rs. 695-11-10 belongs to the general amount of the Chamber, the remainder being loss in working the Measurement Scheme.

The Measurement Fee Account shows a debit balance of Rs. 4,005-13-10, the loss in this year, as in the two previous ones, being accounted for by the large falling off in the exports of Cotton, caused by the short and irregular rainfall during the S. W. Monsoon of 1877. The Measurement Fee was raised, on the 1st of January, from 3 pies to 3½ pies per bale, and again on the 1st of May last from 3½ pies to 4 pies per bale. The following table shows the financial position (excluding interest on Fixed Deposits, &c.,) of the Measurement Scheme since its commencement on 18th May 1870.

Year Ending.	No. of Bales, Measured.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Surplus Receipts.	Excess of Expenditure.
From 18th May 1870 to 31st Aug. 1872	Not recorded.	51,194	34,859	16,335	—
From 1st Sept. 1872 to 30th Sept. 1873	973,103	19,635	18,522	1,113	...
Year Ending 30th Sept 1874	1,055,045	21,731	19,296	2,435	...
30th Sept. 1875	1,460,216	22,383	22,949	...	566
30th Sept. 1876	1,225,638	18,988	22,753	...	3,765
30th Sept. 1877	1,070,940	18,260	22,493	...	4,233
30th Sept. 1878	955,124	20,460	24,466	...	4,006

The results of the working of the scheme shown in the table in last year's Report were brought down only to the 30th of June in each year, and did not include the adjustments necessary for head office charges made in the account for the year ending 30th September 1875.

Your Committee have only now to tender their thanks to the members of the Chamber for their ready attention to all matters on which they have had occasion to consult them; and to express their acknowledgments to His Excellency the Governor-General of India in Council and to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay in Council, for the courtesy and attention with which their representations have on all occasions been received.

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